# West Virginia Wesleyan College 1890 - 1940

Thos. H. Haught

Ivy Frames the Entrance to West Virginia Wesleyan's Administration Building

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# West Virginia Wesleyan College

## FIRST FIFTY YEARS

## *1890-1940*

by

THOMAS W. HAUGHT

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# INTRODUCTION

The origin of this *History of West Virginia Wesleyan College,* so far as any official record is concerned, is found in the following paragraph quoted from the first report of the Semi-Centennial Committee to the Board of Trustees in June, 1935:

PUBLICATION OF HISTORY: Believing that much valuable information concerning the founding of the institution should be put in an available form as a part of the publicity campaign, as well as for the preservation of data for future generations, the committee on history of the college brought into the general meeting the recommendation that the assembling of material and the writing of the history of the college be undertaken, and that the publication should be off the press before Commencement, 1940. Doctor Thomas W. Haught was asked to write the history and we are pleased to report that he has consented to undertake the work. Those who know Doctor Haught will recognize his qualifications for the task . . . He has watched the steady development of the school through the years; has served as teacher both in the Seminary and in the College; was dean for twenty years; and at three different times was acting president. The writing of the history will be for him a labor of love.

It will be of interest to the many friends of Dr. Thomas W. Haught, familiarly known to his friends and in campus secrecies to the students as "Tommy," to record a few details of his life.

He spent his youth on a farm in Tyler County, West Virginia, where he was born November 25, 1871. He attended the public schools of his county and began teaching in them in 1889. In the summer of 1890 he attended a summer school for teachers at Alma, West Virginia, conducted by the late L. J. Corbly. In March of 1891 he enrolled for the Spring Term in West Virginia Conference Seminary where he continued until June of 1893. Since no degrees were granted in the Seminary, he withdrew in order to begin work toward his degree in West Virginia University. In June, 1896, he

received from the University the Bachelor of Arts degree. While Dr. Haught was pursuing his course at the University, President Hutchinson permitted him to graduate from the Seminary with the class of 1895, and placed his name on the record in the class of 1894, the class to which he belonged.

He began his teaching experience at the Conference Seminary in the fall of 1896, when President Hutchinson employed him as instructor in the sciences, elementary English, and mathematics. From 1899 to 1901 he studied at Harvard, returning to the Seminary in the fall of 1901 for another period of teaching until 1905. From 1905 to 1908 he served as principal of State Preparatory School at Keyser (now Potomac State School of West Virginia University).

In 1903 the institution was raised to college standing and the first degrees were granted in 1905. In 1908 President Carl G. Doney invited Professor Haught to accept a place on the college faculty, which he did, and the next year (1909) he was appointed Dean, which position he ably filled for twenty years. The summer of 1918 was spent in Johns Hopkins University. In 1929 he resigned as Dean to resume classroom work, which position he holds at the present. In all, Dr. Haught has been a member of the staff of the institution thirty-eight years. During these years he has served with every one of the eight presidents and with Dr. Frank B. Trotter as acting president; and at three different periods he was acting president. No other person connected with the college is known by so large a number of Wesleyan students and friends.

Fifty years is a short period in the life of a college. It is particularly short when the effort is made to evaluate its work and present anything like a true picture of historical significance. Perhaps fifty years or a century

hence the longer perspective will furnish the future historian of West Virginia Wesleyan College a better basis for an adequate estimate of the institution. The intimate association of the author with the school from its beginning is both an advantage and a disadvantage: an advantage in his acquaintance with the facts needed in a historical sketch, and a disadvantage in his nearness to persons and events. The Semi-Centennial Committee invited Dr. Thomas W. Haught to write this history and placed no restrictions upon him. His own personality breathes through these pages. His views may not be shared by all who read this book, but the book is *his* throughout.

I cannot close this introduction without a brief personal word of appreciation. My first contact with Professor Haught was in 1901 when, as a student in the Seminary, I was assigned to his class in Elementary English, better known to us as "Reed and Kellogg Grammar." His requirements were exact, and his discipline firm. There was evidence of austerity in his manner, and oftttimes keen sarcasm in his remarks, but these traits were tempered by a gentle humor. If we were at first chilled by his seriousness, we were eventually warmed by his intense interest in his work and in his students.

What I learned through his instruction and his careful guidance in his courses was invaluable, yet was less significant than what I have gained through his friendship and his gracious cooperation since I came into office. Soliciting favors is as far from him as intruding suggestions. With becoming modesty and appreciation he has accepted whatever honors have been bestowed, and he has never withheld wise counsel nor helpful criticism when they were sought.

As an alumnus of West Virginia Wesleyan College, who owes an overwhelming debt of gratitude to the in-

stitution as well as to my early teacher and long-time friend, I commend this publication to all former students of the West Virginia Conference Seminary and West Virginia Wesleyan College.

ROY McCUSKEY,
*Seminary 1905-College 1908*

# FOREWORD AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This narrative of West Virginia Wesleyan College is an incident in the development of a program conceived by President McCuskey and presented by him to the Board of Trustees, June 5, 1934. His report embodied an outline of a five-year program embracing the following six objectives:

(1) "The raising of the scholastic standards of the college to meet the demands of the advancing educational standards throughout the nation.

(2) "The maintenance and improvement of physical properties.

(3) "The strengthening of our financial situation.

(4) "An increase in our enrollment to 550 or 600 full-time students.

(5) "The development and maintenance of a more distinctly religious atmosphere in the college.

(6) "A proper celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the institution."

Item six above, as elaborated by the semi-centennial committee, included the preparation of a history of the college. To the attainment of this aim the writer has devoted such part of his time and his energies during the past few years as his regular responsibilities would permit.

Motivating and guiding the author in his labors on this history has been a desire to bring into relief the spiritual factors and forces that lay back of, and led up to the founding of Wesleyan College; to trace the operation of these springs of action to their logical fruition; to follow with fidelity the fortunes of this spiritual offspring of Methodism in the bounds of the West Virginia Annual Conference; and to presage its future, as a

prophecy based upon considerations of its past and its present.

At this stage of the enterprise, with the copy all in, the author is conscious chiefly of the imperfections of his work as judged by the objectives stated above. For these imperfections he accepts full responsibility, breathing the hope, as he releases the custody of his efforts to the publishing committee, that the work may be found to have merit enough to justify its existence; and that the mantle of charity may be employed to soften its defects.

It was advanced that the author's long association with the college gave him advantages possessed by no other as a prospective historian. When he considers the number of persons and sources to which he is indebted for cooperation and source material, he wonders what those advantages are. His acknowledgments are due to:

Dr. B. W. Hutchinson for preparing, on request, a most helpful paper on the organization of the school and its administration during the first eight years. Material from his paper appears in a number of places throughout the book.

Dr. Carl G. Doney, for his assistance in examining the records of the Ohio Conference for material on Asbury Academy, and other courtesies.

President McCuskey, for his generous cooperation, and the use of the records and files of his office.

Hon. Harvey W. Harmer, for identifying the legislative act transferring the ownership of the buildings and grounds of the Northwestern Virginia Academy to the public schools of Clarksburg, and for the record of the sale of the property of the Randolph Academy to the church for school purposes.

Mr. H. R. Clark, for a copy of the *Buckhannon Delta* of date, October 8, 1890, containing the article on the dedication of the Seminary.

Dean O. D. Lambert, for helpful information and for the courtesies of his office while pursuing this work.

Dr. G. L. Glauner and Dr. A. A. Schoolcraft, for helpful suggestions on plan and arrangement of the history.

Professor Clifford M. Lewis, for copying certain articles found in the files of the Western Pennsylvania Historical Society.

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Mr. Arthur L. Aylesworth, for providing from the files of the college, data on the growth of the endowment funds of the school.

The *Parkersburg Sentinel,* Mr. James A. Bryan, and Judge L. N. Tavenner, for helpful cooperation in the search for data on the history of Asbury Academy.

The capable Publishing Committee, whose work has already begun, consisting of Dr. L. H. Chrisman, Chairman; Professor Harold N. Ahlgren, Dr. Thomas M. Zumbrunnen, Mr. U. G. Young, Jr., and Mr. Floyd N. Shaver, Alumni Secretary.

Fred B. Haught, for the gratuitous cooperation of his office in typing the manuscript.

George Selden Wallace, for data from his *History of Cabell County* on the Mt. Hebron School and Marshall Academy as Methodist enterprises.

Dr. James M. Callahan, for data from his *History of West Virginia* on the Fairmont Male and Female Seminary.

Henry Haymond's *History of Harrison County,* for data on the Northwestern Virginia Academy.

Thomas C. Miller's *History of Education in West Virginia,* for data on several subjects.

Coach C. B. Ross, H. H. Withers, and James Ellis, for help in the preparation of the article on athletics.

Besides these personal acknowledgments it is fitting that the following libraries, publications, and records should be named as sources of material used:

The State Library, Capitol Building, Charleston, West Virginia.

The Western Pennsylvania Historical Society, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Library of Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio.

Minutes of the West Virginia Annual Conference.

Minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of West Virginia Wesleyan College.

Minutes of the proceedings of the faculty of West Virginia Wesleyan College.

Early copies of the *Seminary Collegiate* and of its successor, *The Pharos.*

Early copies of the *Murmurmontis.*

The files of the annual catalog of the College.

The files of the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate.*

The *Acts of the Legislature of West Virginia,* Session of 1872-73.

The *Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia,* Session of 1852.

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# WEST VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

## FIRST FIFTY YEARS

1890-1940

# 1

## Background and Approach

WHEN the tide of pioneer settlement began to flow over the mountains into the present territorial limits of West Virginia, few, if any, could have been wise enough to foresee what phases of the wilderness civilization would receive marked emphasis.

Human objectives are so diverse. Among the settlers there doubtless were some whose motive was pure adventure. Hostile Indians, the trackless forest, the mountain barriers, the unbridged streams, the abundant wild game, were among the challenges to which the spirits of such reacted.

Some dreamed, perhaps, of founding settlements into whose social, civic, or economic life they would introduce untried, new qualities that would make for human betterment.

Many, no doubt, were moved by considerations of their own economic betterment. It is hard to understand today that one hundred and fifty years ago, or earlier, lack of economic opportunities in the seaboard colonies was the urge that prompted trans-Appalachian migration. Today, in these same seaboard regions, having several times their former populations, the saturation level of population has not been reached. The explanation of this apparent anomaly lies in the fact that manufacture, industry and commerce, which multiply human opportunities in step with growth of population and expansion of human needs, had scarcely begun. Among a people almost exclusively pastoral and agricultural, the satur-

ation level of population is reached early. The era of overcrowding and migration is then inaugurated.

In addition to those pioneers with motives and objectives like the foregoing, there was, at least, one other class that should be mentioned. These were the men whose souls were on fire with a holy zeal for the spiritual well-being of all those living in the scattered pioneer settlements of the new land. Because these men worked quietly and unostentatiously their influence was, probably, not fully appreciated by their contemporaries. For this reason, especially, we wish to emphasize the importance of the labors of those who, enduring the hardships incident to pioneering in a difficult region, freely spent themselves to foster the spiritual betterment of those others who had elected to make their homes in the wilderness.

The genius of spiritual leaders in all ages has been to recognize education as basic to spiritual growth. By the same token they have deprecated ignorance as one of the chief enemies of man's spiritual well-being.

It is true that the charge has sometimes been made against the Protestant ministry that their educational standards have been too low. But Protestantism has been guilty only of solving a practical problem in the most practical way. Indeed, at the outset, Christianity was promulgated in such a way. The work of the Great Teacher was carried on by men who, irrespective of scholarly ability, had been willing to answer the call to service.

Other things being equal, it is useless to speculate on whether the Master would have chosen for the work men with better backgrounds of education. Such men probably were not available. Protestantism, and especially Methodism, has never lost sight of the goal of a complete corps of workers having the best possible training for their work. In the meantime, with the harvest great and

Dr. Thomas W. Haught
Author
Acting President, 1913-1914,
1922-1923, 1925-1926
Dean of the College for Twenty
Years

Dr. Frank B. Trotter
Vice-President, 1890-1907
Acting President, 1898

the laborers few, it has been the practical policy of the leaders to relate the workers to the work, according to their several abilities.

In this region, as in many others, the better trained spiritual leaders were also the first educational leaders.

The minister's relation to his people gave him an especially good opportunity to find and to encourage the development of the boys and girls of the greatest spiritual and intellectual promise. The itinerant character of the minister's duties made his contact with his people occasional rather than continuous. But it enabled him to give some instruction, much inspiration, and to lend valuable assistance in directing the choice of books to be read. Such work created public sentiment in favor of education and prepared the way for the organization of schools, as, with the growth of population, scattered pioneer homes were transformed into communities.

The goal of free schools, in that day, was yet a long way off. Perhaps the best substitute for the free public school lay in community enterprise to provide instruction in the three R's for their children. That much of this was done, is implied in what was happening in the field of secondary education. The prototype of the free public high school prior to the time when West Virginia achieved statehood was the church-administered or the privately administered academy. Much credit is due the spiritual and educational leaders of that period for the establishment of at least sixty-five academies within the territorial limits of West Virginia. There is ground for the belief that still others came into being as local enterprises, flourished briefly, served well, and disbanded without the formality of incorporation that would have made their existence a matter of historical record.

One instance is noted of an ecclesiastical body appropriating funds for the support of an academy in the second year prior to the historical date of its incorpora-

tion. This reference is to the minutes of the Ohio Conference for the year 1840. One district of the conference lay in Virginia, and in the annual session of the conference of 1840 they voted an appropriation of one hundred dollars for the support of the Asbury Academy, located in Parkersburg, Virginia. The historical date of the incorporation of this academy is February 8, 1842. Reference to the educational work of the conference in Parkersburg is found also in the minutes of 1839.

Since a considerable number of the academies incorporated were rather short-lived, and since, as shown, an academy might be in operation some years before it was incorporated, it seems probable that still others served their communities briefly, but without the official formality of incorporation that would have made their existence a matter of record.

Of the sixty-five or more academies organized inside the territorial limits of West Virginia prior to the time of the Civil War, at least four were, each for a time, officially under the auspices of the Methodist Church. Methodism went even further than the assumption of financial responsibility for these four schools. The conference minutes over a long period show that every educational enterprise of merit, whether a product of Methodist initiative or not, was fostered and encouraged. Committees appointed by the conference inspected the work of such schools, reported their findings at their annual sessions, and such of them as merited favorable report were commended to Methodist patronage in the contiguous territory.

## 2

# Early Educational Enterprises of the Church

### The Mt. Hebron School

AT LEAST two of the early educational enterprises of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the area that is now West Virginia, were begun before the year 1840. There were two others begun between 1840 and 1860.

With respect to the first two, Asbury Academy, located at Parkersburg, and the Mt. Hebron School, located on the site that is now the campus of Marshall College, the evidence at hand does not clearly settle any claim to priority that might arise. Evidence is lacking that the Mt. Hebron School was ever chartered under Methodist auspices. Apparently, it is not listed among the more-than-sixty schools in this region which were chartered by the Virginia Assembly before the beginning of the Civil War. If, however, it was organized and functioned as a Methodist School for a while, on which point there seems to be no reasonable doubt, it is entitled to consideration here. Mt. Hebron was succeeded by Marshall Academy which became a chartered institution in 1838.

As throwing some light on this Methodist enterprise, the following from an article on Marshall College in the *School Journal,* November, 1936, may be of some interest:

> Marshall College, although not chartered until 1838, is recorded in a history of the year 1837 as an already established school, Mt. Hebron,

which was under the control of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It was a small log building on the present site (of Marshall College), a rise overlooking the Ohio River two miles west of Guyandot River. . . . Some time in 1837 a group of leaders asked the Assembly to take over the Mt. Hebron School from the Methodist Episcopal Church and in 1838 the General Assembly of Virginia passed an act making . . . "Trustees of Marshall Academy" to be located in Cabell County.

The following quotation from George Selden Wallace's *History of Cabell County* shows that the school came again under Methodist auspices, this time the Methodist Episcopal Church South:

At the organization meeting of the Western Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South held at Parkersburg September 4, 1850, a proposal was made by the trustees of Marshall Academy, the terms of which the conference records do not disclose. The Committee on Education recommended its acceptance, which was done, and Marshall Academy passed under the control of the Western Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Seven years later the Academy was in financial distress, and Bishop Pierce and twenty-nine other ministers donated fifty dollars each toward paying the indebtedness.

In 1866 Marshall College was in private hands and the records of the Western Virginia Conference (of the Methodist Episcopal Church South) held on October 24, 1866, contain the following minutes: "Prior to the war our body had control of Marshall College near Guyandotte at which a number of young men were educated. During the war this College was sold by a decree of the court and passed out of our hands. Arrangements have been made by the Board of Trustees with the purchasers to reopen that institution under the control of this conference, to effect which the Board will be compelled to assume all its liabilities, about two thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars."

The Conference was unable to raise this small sum, and in the legislative session of 1867 provision was made to establish the State Normal School at Marshall College.

## ASBURY ACADEMY

Our information on the other Methodist educational enterprise, known to have begun before the year 1840, is, possibly, even more meager than that relating to the Mt. Hebron School. The minutes of the Ohio Conference preserved in the archives of the Library of Ohio Wesleyan

University, as previously stated, contain a reference as early as 1839 to the educational work of that conference in Parkersburg, Virginia. In the session of 1840 the conference appropriated one hundred dollars for the support of this educational work, specifically referring to the school, in this instance, by name, "Asbury Academy."

The illustrious Gordon Battelle, according to our most reliable sources of information, served as principal of Asbury Academy for a period of time. How long he continued in this responsibility, we do not know. The evidence seems rather clear, however, that he did not continue with Asbury Academy longer than the spring or summer of 1843; for he is credited as being the first principal of the Northwestern Virginia Academy when it opened in October of that year in Clarksburg.

Through the generous cooperation of the *Parkersburg Sentinel* and through helpful letters from Judge L. N. Tavenner and Mr. James A. Bryan of Parkersburg, our information about Asbury Academy has been amplified somewhat. But, even so, consideration for historical accuracy forbids us to go further than to say that this academy began to function not later than 1839, possibly some years earlier; that it was chartered under Virginia statutes on February 8, 1842; that Gordon Battelle, an able Methodist minister possessing strong elements of leadership, served it as principal; and that no records of later date than the early forties, to which we have found access, refer in the present tense to this educational enterprise. This school is believed to have been located on or near Avery Street, Parkersburg.

### THE NORTHWESTERN VIRGINIA ACADEMY

From Harvey W. Harmer's "One Hundred and Fifty Years of Methodism in Clarksburg," we quote, on the purchase of the Randolph Academy property by the Methodists, as follows:

Under the leadership of Jonathan Hamnett, pastor of the Clarksburg Church, a movement was started to purchase the Randolph Academy, erected in 1795 and a committee was appointed to solicit the necessary fund.

At a meeting of the Trustees of the Randolph Academy held on the 19th day of June, 1841 . . . Charles A. Harper, James P. Bartlett, and Aaron Criss, committee on behalf of the subscribers to the Northwestern Virginia Academy, communicated to this board that the subscribers to the Northwestern Virginia Academy accept the proposition made by the board to them for the sale of the Randolph Academy lot at the price of $500.00, whereupon it is unanimously resolved by the trustees of this academy and they agree to bind themselves and their successors in office that they will convey to the subscribers to the Northwestern Virginia Academy, the Randolph Academy lot and appurtenances, whenever the subscribers to said Northwestern Virginia Academy shall finish their academy building on said lot and pay to the trustees of the Randolph Academy the sum of $500.00.

Early in 1842 the purchase of the academy was consummated and incorporated under the name of Northwestern Virginia Academy and under the control of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Reverend Gordon Battelle, a member of the Pittsburgh Conference, became the principal. A new building was erected and used by the West Virginia Conference until the Civil War. During the war the building was used for military purposes, as was the old brick church, which stood east of the Academy. After the war the academy was taken over and used for a public school.

In answer to a personal inquiry by the author, Mr. Harmer writes as follows:

All the northern part of West Virginia was originally in the Baltimore Conference until 1825 when the Pittsburgh Conference was formed and we continued in the latter until our conference was formed in 1848.

From 1848 until about the time when West Virginia became a state, the qualifying part of the conference name was *Western Virginia;* since then it has been *West Virginia.* These changes of conference name are introduced for greater clearness. They do not affect the continuity of local relationships with the Northwestern Virginia Academy.

To Henry Haymond's *History of Harrison County* we are indebted for the following, relating to the Northwestern Virginia Academy:

> The Reverend Gordon Battelle was the first principal, and the first session opened October 1, 1843. He continued as principal about twelve years and was succeeded by the Reverend Alexander Martin. The last to hold the position before the Civil War was the Reverend R. A. Arthur.

This information from the *History of Harrison County* is qualified somewhat in regard to the tenure of the position by the Reverend Mr. Battelle, by the report of the conference committee on Education, made to the session of the Conference held in Charleston, June 4-9, 1851. From this report we quote the following:

> The former president (Principal) of the (Northwestern Virginia) Academy having resigned that office, and a committee of this conference having nominated the Reverend Alexander Martin, A. B., to the trustees as a suitable person to fill the vacancy, and the trustees having unanimously confirmed that nomination, your committee recommend the adoption of the following: "Resolved, that the president of this Conference be, and he is hereby respectfully requested to appoint the Reverend Alexander Martin to the office of principal of the Northwestern Virginia Academy."

The foregoing statements indicate that the administration of the work of the Academy by the Reverend Gordon Battelle began with the autumn session of the year 1843 and ended not later than the close of the spring session of 1851. His administration seems, in the light of these statements, to have lasted eight years.

The principalship of the Reverend Alexander Martin ended with the close of the spring session of the year 1854. His was a rather brief administration. According to all the available evidence, it was highly successful. He appears to have had the respect, confidence, and cooperation of the trustees of the Academy and of the ministers of the conference.

In the year 1854 the Reverend Richard A. Arthur, A. M., succeeded to the principalship of the Academy.

At this time there was an instructional staff of four, including the principal. The other three members of the staff were Peter G. Davisson, Miss Isabelle J. Davisson, and Miss Helen McCauley. The Reverend Mr. Arthur served three years in the capacity of principal. We quote from the report of the Board of Trustees of the Academy to the Annual Conference in session at Moundsville, April 16, 1857, because we judge the spirit of the report to be prophetic of the impending gloom of the approaching war period.

Report of the Trustees of Northwestern Virginia Academy, April 14, 1857, to the Bishop and the members of the Western Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The trustees of the Northwestern Virginia Academy beg leave to report: That the Reverend R. A. Arthur has this day resigned his place as principal of the Academy which leaves it without a professor at its head.

Having had great difficulties to encounter for several years past, which it is not necessary to mention here, the trustees are at a loss to know what advice to give. They, without making any suggestions think it best to leave the whole matter to the judgment of the Conference.

(Signed)

NATHAN GOFF, Secy. Protem.
CHAS. LEWIS, President.

The response of the conference to the foregoing report was to appoint a committee of seven with full authority to represent the conference in naming a principal of the Academy to succeed the Reverend Mr. Arthur. This committee consisted of Gordon Battelle, Gideon Martin, James Drummond, Moses Titchenel, Wesley Smith, Thomas H. Monroe, and J. B. Blakeney.

Evidence is lacking that this strong committee was able to function in securing a principal, and one is left to make the deduction that the Academy was not in session under conference auspices between the years 1857

AUTHOR'S NOTE: The discrepant dates above are preserved because the one seems to show the time when the resignation occurred and the report was prepared, while the other is the date when the report was made to the Conference.

and 1865. In the conference minutes of these eight years, one does not find evidence either of the appointment of a principal or that the school was in session. Other concerns of major seriousness were probably laying claim to the chief place of interest in the lives of men. Just how long the Academy was closed should, however, be left an open question until it receives better illumination.

In the meantime, the following statements, conflicting a little, it may be, must be our guide:

(1) "The last to hold the position before the Civil War was the Rev. R. A. Arthur." (Haymond's *History of Harrison County.*)

(2) The above citation from the report of the trustees of the Academy showing that, beginning April 14, 1857, the Academy was without a principal.

(3) That the Reverend Mr. Arthur did not hold over in the principalship to await the appointment of his successor, is evident from the fact that during the next several years he was holding pastorates in different parts of the conference area.

(4) From T. C. Miller's *History of Education in West Virginia*:

> The doors of the Northwestern Virginia Academy were open regularly ten months out of the year for the reception of students till 1861 or 1862, when the outbreak of the Civil War called its students and teachers to other scenes. . . . In 1865 the last session of Northwestern Virginia Academy was taught by the Rev. John Conner, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

(5) The conference minutes bearing date of March 14, 1867, state that:

> During the past year the Board of Trustees has been reorganized, the building put in tolerable repair at a cost of four or five thousand dollars, and the School commenced in conjunction with the township commissioners of the district, thus securing about two hundred and fifty pupils. The Rev. J. Conner, a Methodist minister, has been appointed principal.

The foregoing statement from the conference minutes can be reconciled with the date of Mr. Conner's prin-

cipalship as given in Miller's *History of Education* if we assume that the phrase, "during the past year," refers to the school year. Since the report to the conference was prepared before the end of the school year, 1866-67, "the past year," may reasonably refer to the school year 1865-66.

It appears from statements found in the conference minutes of 1866 that the expense of the repair of the Academy building, referred to above, was borne by the Federal Government. This might be inferred also from the offhand way in which is stated, in large, round numbers, the cost of the repair as if the habit of penny-pinching were foreign to the agency making the report. We confess our own weakness for an occasional indulgence of the attitude of indifference to severe economies.

The Academy building, it seems, had been used variously as prison, soldiers' barracks, and hospital during the Civil War period. It stands to reason that a building so used for several years, even with the gentleness of a company of soldiers, must need some attention to restore to it the atmosphere of an educational institution.

We sense in the conference report of 1867 on the affairs of the Academy that the trustees were employing heroic measures in an effort to instill new life into the school. Evidently it was passing through a crisis. Did it have in it enough vitality to rally if they administered a stimulant? The expression, "Commenced in conjunction with the township commissioners of the district thus securing about two hundred and fifty pupils," suggests that it had in a large measure taken the character of a grammar school, serving for the most part the needs of the local community. This impression is deepened by the conference report of the following year. In this report we learn, "that the trustees of this institution, finding it impossible to sustain it at present as an independent school, have temporarily merged it into the free schools

of the borough of Clarksburg . . . This arrangement is made for two years."

The work of the Academy was never resumed under the auspices of the West Virginia Conference. In 1873, by an act of the West Virginia Legislature, the Academy building and grounds became the property of the Clarksburg public schools. (See chapter 64, Acts of the Legislature of West Virginia, session of 1872 and 1873.)

The West Virginia Conference, in session at Charleston in 1885, spoke its final word on the subject when it adopted the report of a board set up the preceding year with instruction to "make such arrangements as they may deem expedient to carry out the original design that suggested the establishment of this school." Their report to the conference follows:

> Whereas, the charter of the Northwestern Virginia Academy prevents any church organization holding the right of control or property ownership in said institution: and
>
> Whereas, no religious denomination, under said charter, has the privilege of establishing at any time, in connection with the Academy, any theological school or professorship; therefore, be it
>
> Resolved, that this conference ceases all further efforts for control and ownership of said institution, and also that the Board of Trustees appointed at the last session of our conference be hereby discontinued.

After almost twenty years had passed since the Academy had been operated under the auspices of the conference, and after considerable agitation in the conference for the reorganization of this educational enterprise, it was deemed wise by that body to discontinue its efforts in that direction.

### THE FAIRMONT MALE AND FEMALE SEMINARY

In only one other instance do we find in the records evidence that the Western Virginia Annual Conference assumed resposibility for the patronage and control of an educational institution prior to the time of the estab-

lishment of the Conference Seminary at Buckhannon. This was in the case of the Fairmont Male and Female Seminary. The story of this instance can, perhaps, be told best in the language of the conference record pertaining thereto:

A communication from the Trustees of the Fairmont Male and Female Seminary, Read and Referred June 12, A. D. 1856.

To the Bishop and members of the Western Virginia Conference of the M. E. Church to be held in Buckhannon on June 12, 1856.
Dear Fathers and Brethren:

The Board of Trustees of the Fairmont Male and Female Seminary beg leave to present for the consideration and action of your body, the following statement in reference to the institution under their care.

Near the close of last winter, an effort was made on the part of several friends of education in this place, Palatine and their vicinities, to provide a Seminary of learning for both sexes, that should be able to meet the growing demands of this community. A brick building three stories high, heretofore used as a hotel was offered with the ground pertaining to it for the above purpose for the sum of three thousand dollars. Subscriptions for the purchase and furnishing of this property for the purpose above named were circulated; one of the conditions of said subscription being — "said Seminary is to be under the control and patronage of the Western Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church." These subscriptions payable in one and two years have already amounted to some two thousand six hundred dollars. An act of incorporation granting the usual rights and privileges in such cases was obtained from the Legislature at its last session.

It was deemed advisable that the school should be opened the present season. The Board deem themselves fortunate in having secured the services of the Rev. W. R. White, A.M., a member of the Baltimore Conference as principal of the Seminary. Mr. White is a graduate of Dickinson College and comes recommended to us, not only as a gentleman of superior literary attainments, but also as having a successful experience of several years as an instructor in other Seminaries in the Central and Eastern portion of this state. The first session of our Seminary was opened on the 19th ultimo, and thus far the tokens of the success of the enterprise are highly encouraging. Having made this brief reference to the history of this enterprise we need only add:

1st That in accordance with the intention and desire of the originators of the institution, the Board of Trustees respectfully request the Conference to assume the "patronage and control" of the Seminary nom-

inating from time to time to the Trustees a suitable person as principal of the Seminary, and appointing a committee of your body to visit the Institution and report as to its workings and condition.

2nd The Board desires that the Conference may express its approval of the appointment of the Rev. W. R. White, A.M., to the post which he now holds.

3rd The Board would further ask that the Conference at its present session and hereafter, would commend the Seminary to the patronage of the community.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Board of Trustees.

F. H. PIERPONT, President,
CHARLES W. CONNELLY, Secretary.

Following the presentation of the foregoing report of the Board of Trustees of the Fairmont Male and Female Seminary, the conference adopted the following resolution coming from its own committee on education:

Resolved 1st. That "in accordance with the intention and desire of the originators of the Institution," and request of the Board of Trustees, this conference does hereby take under its "patronage and control" the Fairmont Male and Female Seminary and cheerfully commends it and all its interests to our people and public.

Resolved 2nd. That the appointment of the Rev. W. R. White, A. M., as principal of said Seminary meets with our unqualified approbation.

Resolved 3rd. That a committee of three be appointed to attend the examinations during the ensuing conference year; the committee to consist of G. Martin, Ashby Stevens, and Edward McCarty.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES DRUMMOND
T. H. MONROE
J. S. PATTERSON
R. L. WOODYARD
R. A. ARTHUR

Due, probably, to the fact that Dr. W. R. White remained a member of the Baltimore Conference till 1864, his yearly appointment as principal of the Male and Female Seminary is mentioned only incidentally now and then in the minutes of the West Virginia Conference. But he seems to have held the position continuously from 1856 to about 1864. His membership was transferred to this Conference in 1864 and the minutes

of March 18, 1864, record the confirmation of his appointment as principal of the Fairmont Male and Female Seminary. Not until 1865 do we find in the Conference minutes confirmation of his appointment as State Superintendent of Public Schools in West Virginia.

Dr. White's appointment by the Conference in 1864 as principal of the Male and Female Seminary, and the absence of any report of his conference appointment to the State Superintendency of Public Schools prior to the conference session of 1865, are both interesting in view of the fact that the *West Virginia Blue Book* credits him with tenure of the State Superintendency from June 20, 1863, to March 3, 1869. Just when the Male and Female Seminary ceased to carry on does not seem to be a matter of record in the Conference minutes. We do not find in the minutes further reference to the school after the Conference session of 1864.

A matter worthy to be noted here is that, although some educational enterprises other than the four briefly sketched in the foregoing pages had, through their local sponsors, been held tantalizingly before the Conference at various times, yet that body had exercised a discreet self-restraint. It had committed itself enthusiastically, on evidence of efficient work, to commending these enterprises to the patronage of Methodists living in their several contiguous territories. However, it had carefully avoided committing itself to responsibility for their patronage and control. The minutes of the conference of 1857 record a resolution for the appointment of a financial secretary for the Male and Female Seminary.

When we consider the apparent alacrity with which the conference took over this new educational enterprise, located within thirty miles of another it was already trying to support; when we consider the sterling qualities, the scholarly ability, and the educational exper-

ience of the man whom the trustees had been wise enough to put in the place of responsible leadership; when we consider the carefully prepared presentation of the case so skillfully done to commit the Conference to control without even provoking any recorded discussion of the implied financial responsibility; finally, when we consider the prestige of the man chosen to affix his signature to the resolutions presented to the Conference; we see in all these considerations a piece of masterly diplomatic strategy.

It is too fine an example to be condemned. It is to be emulated. Destinies are not fortuitous; the inexorable laws of cause and effect determine them. From Callahan's *History of West Virginia* we quote the following:

"The Fairmont Academy and the Fairmont Male and Female Seminary did thorough work and paved the way for the location of the Branch of the State Normal school at that place."

Perhaps the same type of aggressive spirits that could do a masterpiece of diplomatic strategy, saw what appeared to them a larger and more desirable goal and by their pursuit of it, decreed that a quarter of a century more of yearning and prayer and sacrifice and patient planning should pave the way to the establishment of the first permanent Methodist educational institution destined to be of collegiate grade, within the bounds of the West Virginia Conference.

## 3

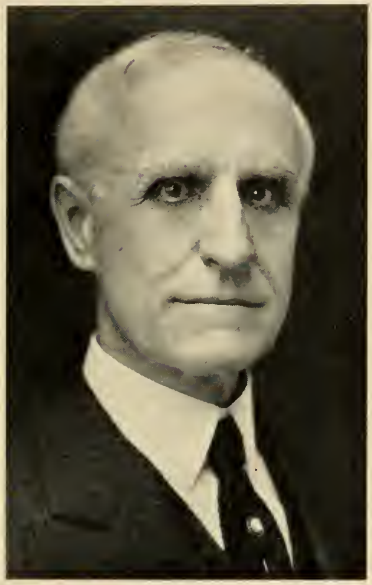
# The Educational Society of Western Virginia

AT THE fourth annual session of the Western Virginia Conference held in Charleston, June 4-9, 1851, definite action was taken toward organizing an educational society. The chief object of this society was to procure and distribute funds to support an educational program of the Conference. That the society was to act in close cooperation with, and be alive to the interests of the Northwestern Virginia Academy, is evident from the organization given it.

The six trustees, named first by the Conference and later by the Virginia Legislature in May, 1852, and given legal status in the act of incorporation which we quote below, were all from the County of Harrison. If one fails to interpret this in the light of existing conditions of that time, he may see in this a strong tendency to make of the Academy, merely a local institution. We think of at least two circumstances that seem to justify the course that was taken.

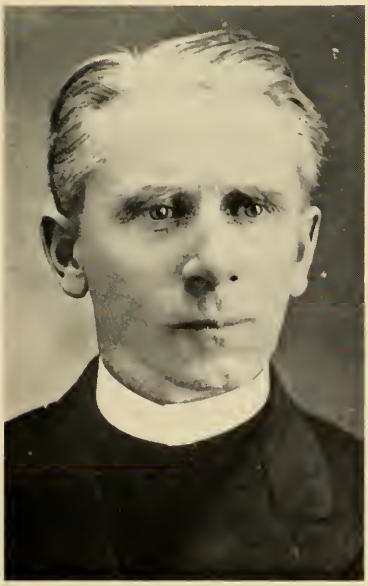
(1) Three of the six trustees, residents of Harrison County at that time, were ministers of the Conference. While the act of incorporation clearly implies that all the trustees must be residents of the county, and says nothing about half of their number being members of the Conference, yet this feature is expressly stated in the set-up given the organization by the Conference that framed it, and this aspect of the board was, in all probability, at no time ignored. It would follow, then, that the incidence of the annual Conference appointments,

# PRESIDENTS OF THE COLLEGE



Dr. B. W. Hutchinson
1890-1898

Dr. S. L. Boyers
1898-1900



Dr. John Wier
1900-1907

Dr. Carl G. Doney
1907-1915

since three of the men assigned to charges within the county must be members of the board of trustees, should have the effect of making and keeping the affairs of the "Educational Society of Western Virginia" matters of Conference-wide interest and concern.

(2) Most of the cross-country roads of that time could have been but little better than blazed trails through the forests. The Grafton-to-Parkersburg division of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, passing through Clarksburg, was not yet completed. With the primitive and meager facilities for travel and communication existing at the time when the society was planned and the act of incorporation was passed, it is doubtful, had the members of the board resided in widely separated parts of the Conference, whether a quorum for the transaction of business could have been assembled without very great effort.

No document which the writer has examined gives a formal statement or complete list of the trustees of the Northwestern Virginia Academy. However, in a few instances, reports made by this board to the Conference bear the official signatures of men who were members of the board of trustees of the Educational Society of Western Virginia, as well as the names of some who were not members of the latter board. It would seem, therefore, that there was some overlapping of the two boards, but that the two were not identical in membership.

Having given brief annals of the educational enterprises undertaken by the Methodist Church in Western Virginia prior to the time when the same region became a separate state; and having noted the liquidation of all these enterprises before, during, or soon after the Civil-War period; it is well to examine the circumstances of the time lest we charge the fathers with unsteadiness of their aims and purposes, or with lukewarmness of their zeal for this handmaiden of the church, education. Per-

haps few, if any, will dissent from the proposition that the bitter partisan issues culminating in the war of the states were as poison in the atmosphere of education, and these enterprises, not yet well established, sickened and died. In the cases of those that survived till the end of the civil strife, the economic exhaustion of the people incidental to such a prolonged struggle may be reason enough to account for the temporary eclipse of educational interests and plans once dear to their hearts.

During a part of the Civil-War period and for some years thereafter the Educational Society of Western Virginia constituted the chief organized evidence of the Church's unwavering interest in education. Following the organization of the new state, the Society incorporated under the laws of Virginia, was given recognition by the Legislature of West Virginia, the name being changed to "The West Virginia Educational Society." Because for a time it was to be the rallying point for the educational aspirations of the Conference, we give space to the original act of incorporation. This will be followed by excerpts from the Conference minutes, which will tell in the best way, we believe, most of the story to the year 1887.

An Act to Incorporate the Educational Society of Western Virginia, Passed by the Legislature at Richmond, May 27, 1852.

Be it Enacted by the General Assembly that Nathan Goff, Charles Lewis, Walter Ebert, Moses Titchenell, Alexander Martin, and Samuel R. Dawson of the County of Harrison, be and they are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate by the name and style of the Educational Society of Western Virginia and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and a common seal, may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, with power to purchase, receive and hold to them and their successors forever, any lands, tenements, rents, goods, and chattels of what kind soever which may be purchased by or devised by or given to them for the use of said society, and to lease, sell, rent, or otherwise dispose of the same, in such manner as shall seem most conducive to the advantage of said Society, provided that the lands, goods, and chattels so authorized to be held shall not exceed in amount or value the sum of fifty thousand dollars, and provided

that not less than a majority of the trustees for the time being shall be sufficient to authorize the sale or mortgage of any real estate belonging to said society. The said trustees and their successors shall have power to appoint a president, treasurer, librarian, tutors, and such other officers as they may deem necessary, and to endow a professorship or professorships in such College, Academy, or Seminary of learning in Western Virginia as they may select after having first obtained the concurrence, approbation and consent of two thirds of all of the trustees of any such College, Academy, or Seminary of learning, by an order for that purpose being first duly entered on the minutes or record of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of such College, Academy, or Seminary of learning so proposed to be endowed by them in the manner provided as aforesaid, and also to make and establish from time to time such by-laws, rules, and regulations, not contrary to the laws of this State or of the United States, as they may deem necessary for the good government of said society. A majority of the trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and any vacancy or vacancies amongst the trustees occasioned by the death, resignation, removal from the county, or legal disability shall be supplied by appointment of the board. The treasurer shall receive all monies accruing to the society, and properly delivered to his care, and shall pay or deliver the same on the order of the board. Before entering on his duties he shall give bond with such security and in such penalty as the board may direct, made payable to the trustees for the time being and their successors, and conditioned on the faithful discharge of his duty under such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the board: and it shall be lawful for the said trustees to obtain judgment for the amount thereof, or for any special delinquencies incurred by the treasurer on motion in the Circuit Court of Harrison County against the said treasurer and his securities, his or their executors or administrators upon giving ten days notice of such motion. The legislature reserves to itself the right to repeal, change or modify this act. This act shall be in force from its passage.

I, George W. Munford, Clerk of the House of Delegates and Keeper of the Rolls of Virginia do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an act passed by the General Assembly of Virginia on the 27th of May 1852. Given under my hand in the State of Virginia in the City of Richmond this 25th day of July 1852.

GEORGE W. MUNFORD,
C. H. D., and Keeper of the Rolls of Virginia.

# 4

# Agitation and Action

## CONFERENCE MINUTES—Session 1874. Report of the Committee on Education, Item Three. A Conference Seminary.

There are reasons too numerous to mention why we should take into consideration the propriety of establishing one or more Conference Seminaries within our bounds. In other days the most flourishing academy in West Virginia was under the patronage of this body, accomplishing a great work in behalf of education. The same and even a far grander work could, under the same auspices, be accomplished under the more favorable circumstances of the present. It has been intimated to a member of this Conference that a gentleman residing in the capital of the state is ready to make over to the Conference a most liberal grant of buildings, grounds and money if the Conference will undertake to organize and support a Seminary in that section. We doubt not others would unite with him in the same liberal spirit. We also would respectfully suggest the reorganization of the Academy in Clarksburg, or, if the trustees decline to act, then the establishment of a Conference Seminary wherever the most favorable opening may present itself in the Northwestern part of the state.

Resolved, That the Presiding Elders of Charleston and Guyandotte Districts, and the preacher in charge of Charleston station, together with Philip W. Morgan and G. W. Atkinson, and the Presiding Elders of Clarksburg, Parkersburg and Buckhannon Districts, and the preachers in charge of those stations, be a committee on behalf of this Conference to receive, consider, and, if the way be entirely clear, act on a proposition or propositions such as above suggested, and report to this Conference at its next session.

## Conference Minutes 1875, March 3, Point Pleasant, West Virginia:

Resolved, That this Conference respectfully invite the presentation, at its next session, of propositions looking toward the establishment of a Seminary for the education of youth of both sexes, and that

the Secretary forward this resolution for publication in the Pittsburgh Christian Advocate.

## From Report of Committee on Education:

Inasmuch as the Methodist Episcopal Church of West Virginia has no school of its own in the State, it is a matter for serious consideration whether we should not, as soon as possible, take steps for the organization of such an institution in which Christian faith and liberal letters may, in kindliest relation, be cultivated, free from the destroying power of sectarian bigotry and partisan intolerance.

Resolved, That we are as much as ever in favor of popular free-school education, and trust this important interest will be faithfully and jealously conserved by the people.

Resolved, By the West Virginia Annual Conference, that we hereby recognize the great importance of establishing a Seminary of learning at some point within the limits of our territory, and that a committee of three discreet members of this Conference be appointed to receive propositions from the different towns and cities of the State for its location and report the same to the next Conference for final action thereon.

Resolved, That as a Conference we rejoice in the success of the literary institutions of West Virginia so far as they contribute to the Christian education of the masses of the people, and that until this Conference shall have established an institution of its own, we invite our people to patronize the West Virginia University, and our own State Normal Schools and other educational institutions.

## Conference Minutes 1877, March 21, Grafton, West Virginia:

We, your committee, to whom was referred, at our last annual session, the subject of receiving proposals for the establishment of a Conference Seminary, beg leave to report as follows:

We have received but one proposal, namely, from Buckhannon, Upshur County.

This town offers to the Conference a subscription amounting to six thousand five hundred and ninety dollars ($6,590) and also a most beautiful site for the Seminary, containing over three acres of land, worth at least $1,500, making a total of $8,090.

Your committee would, in view of the very liberal offer made by the town of Buckhannon, and other considerations which need not be embodied in this report, respectfully recommend Buckhannon as the place for a Seminary under our patronage; and

We would further recommend that the Conference appoint Trustees to receive the subscriptions and donations from Buckhannon, and that they be instructed to proceed at once to the construction of such

building as, in their judgment may be necessary for present purposes, but not to go beyond the means placed in their hands for this purpose, now or hereafter.

Conference Minutes, October 10, 1878; Parkersburg, West Virginia:

Whereas, This Conference has a keen sense of the importance of keeping the higher education of youth under the control of the Christian Church, and fully realizes that where one student can enter a college or a university, a hundred must depend on the Academy or Seminary for training and instruction, and is deeply impressed with the necessity of a Conference Seminary of high rank, which shall be not only a help to learning, but also a fountain of piety, and is fully persuaded that Providence will speedily open the door for the accomplishment of our long cherished purpose in this regard; therefore,

Resolved, That we will appoint a commission of five ministers and four laymen to receive any proposals that may be made by individuals or communities for the establishment of such Conference Seminary, provided that we do not invite proposals from places not accessible, or nearly so, by railroad, and that we will not undertake to establish a Seminary in any locality which does not donate to us at least twenty-five thousand dollars in land, buildings or other property, nor except the appointment of a majority of the Board of Trustees shall be vested in this Annual Conference.

Signed:
A. C. GEORGE
J. WESLEY WEBB.

The commission asked for in the above resolution was appointed as follows:

Ministers: A. C. George, W. R. White, Samuel Steels, E. W. Ryan, D. H. K. Dix.

Laymen: H. K. List, A. J. Boreman, C. M. Bishop, Nathan Goff, Sr.

Conference Minutes October 1, 1879, Morgantown, West Virginia.

This commission had a meeting at the Fourth Street M. E. Church in Wheeling, February 6, 1879. The most of the members were present. Rev. A. C. George, D.D., was elected chairman and Professor W. R. White was chosen secretary.

Two or three places were represented as favorably situated for the location of a Conference Seminary, and as likely to contribute liberally in that direction but no formal, definite proposals were received.

. . . Subsequently public educational meetings were held in Grafton and in Parkersburg which were addressed by the chairman of our commission and by resident speakers, and at both of which committees were appointed to consider the question of the location of such a Conference Seminary, and to inquire whether the necessary conditions could be met in their respective localities.

The Commission has received no proposal within the stated terms and limitations for the location of a Conference Seminary. . . . The Conference, they claim, should be able to make the citizens of any place furnishing $25,000 in money, buildings, or other property toward the establishment of a Seminary, this proposition: "We will raise outside of your vicinage an equal amount towards the endowment of the Seminary, thus insuring its permanence and success." They urge this especially in view of the fact that the appointment of a majority of the Board of Trustees is to be vested absolutely in the West Virginia Conference. . . . Has the denomination the ability to perform such a work as has been suggested? The West Virginia Conference has 150 traveling preachers, 376 churches, over 33,000 members, and a church property which is in the aggregate put down at $622,120. A Christian denomination so situated, and having such resources, and deeply interested in the cause of education, is sufficient for such an undertaking as has been proposed. It can accomplish the great work and it ought to do it. . . . In view of these facts and considerations, we respectfully recommend that the action of the last Conference in respect to a Conference Seminary be reaffirmed, and that the Bishop be requested to appoint a commission to serve during the ensuing year.

A. C. GEORGE, Chairman.

## Conference Minutes, October 14, 1880, Huntington, West Virginia.

Your committee, after consultation with various parties, and testing the sentiment of our conference, have concluded that the time for definite action has come. We recommend the appointment of a committee of ten to solicit subscriptions toward an Institution of Academic grade for both sexes to be located south of the Little Kanawha River. The subscriptions taken to be void, unless the sum of $5,000 shall be secured in reliable pledges. We recommend the appointment of a Board of Control to be composed of the Presiding Elders of the Conference, and one layman for each district. This Board shall take charge of the subscriptions, collect and control the same when reported by the Soliciting Committee, they having secured the full $5,000. If in the judgment of the Board of Control it is deemed necessary to purchase or erect a building, they shall have power to do so and commence a school and control the same until the next session of our conference.

The organization provided for in the above recommendation was composed as follows:

*Soliciting Committee*: W. M. Fitzwater, J. W. Bedford, L. A. Martin, G. W. Atkinson, L. H. Jordan, W. G. Riheldaffer, H. W. Hovey, George C. Wilding, G. C. Shaeffer, Dr. A. Workman.

Board of Control: The Presiding Elders.

The following Laymen: George C. Sturgiss, John M. Davis, John Bailie, C. F. Scott, H. C. McWhorter, Thomas Medford, A. M. Poundstone, B. F. Swisher, Wm. Nuttall.

W. C. SNODGRASS, Chairman,
C. P. MASDEN, Secretary.

That the organizations given above encountered difficulties in promoting the program assigned to them is to be inferred from the fact that the minutes of the Conference do not reveal any constructive efforts toward a realization of the educational aim of the Conference during the next three years, 1881, 1882, and 1883. The brief revival of interest by the Conference in its relation to the Northwestern Virginia Academy in the session of 1884, and its abandonment of all efforts for the control and ownership of this institution, as recorded in the minutes of the session of 1885, have already been related.

It is noteworthy that the educational leaders in the conference came back strong again in the session of 1886. Perhaps they derived some inspiration from their contacts of the session for they were meeting at the seat of the State University.

Conference Minutes, September 23, 1886, Morgantown, West Virginia.

Your committee deem it imperative on them to place prominently before you the subject of a Conference Seminary. For years the Committee on Education has kept this enterprise in view, but all action hitherto has been tentative. The time has come when this Conference ought to take definite steps toward this work. Is there not among us some who are public-spirited enough, and financially able to aid in the establishment of a Conference Seminary? The money spent in securing educational advantages outside of our state every year, in the one item of transportation of 100 pupils would amount to $2,000. This sum would pay the tuition of the same number of pupils for

one year. We have been waiting a long time for this school in vain. There are two ways of waiting, however; one, the Bible way—waiting in the use of the means—the other; that of a hero of fiction—waiting for something to turn up. That has failed hopelessly, let us try the other.

It has occurred to us that a special day be assigned to the interests of our proposed school, and that the second Sunday of January be observed to present this enterprise to our congregations, and collections and subscriptions taken for this purpose. We recommend the appointment of the Rev. J. W. Reger and J. A. Barnes, Esq., to fill the vacancies caused by the death of the Rev. S. Steele and the Hon. N. Goff, and that the Rev. W. R. White be substituted for the Rev. H. P. Boatman in the Board of Trustees of the West Virginia Conference Seminary. We recommend that the Board secure a charter of incorporation as speedily as possible, and that they are hereby authorized to locate this school and give publicity to its location at the earliest date, and to employ an agent, if in their judgment they should deem it advisable. We recommend further, that the money in the hands of the treasurer of the educational fund, and that also in the hands of the Board of Control of the Centennial Educational Fund be handed over to the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of said West Virginia Conference Seminary, as soon as it is incorporated and organized.

## Conference Minutes, 1887. Parkersburg, October 5. Introduction by the Committee on Education.

The report of the Trustees of our own Conference Seminary renders unnecessary a lengthy reference. The prospect of having at no distant date a school of our own which shall stop the exodus of our young people to other states is very inspiring. May God open the hearts of laymen and their pockets too, so that the labor and patient hope of the friends of this enterprise may be triumphantly blest and rewarded.

## Report of the Trustees of the Conference Seminary.

To the Bishop and Members of the West Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church:

The Trustees of the Conference Seminary heretofore appointed by your body with instructions to locate a Seminary for this Conference, respectfully report that after sundry meetings at different places, and receiving from various localities, liberal propositions and offers of donations as inducements to secure the location of the Institution at the said places, respectively, and maturely considering such propositions, your Trustees finally, in July last, located the said Institution at the town of Buckhannon, in the County of Upshur, and pur-

chased for a site, for such Seminary, a beautiful plot of ground on the South East side of said town about three-fourths of a mile from the Court House, and not quite so far from the Methodist Episcopal Church. Said plot contains forty-three and one-quarter acres. This site is the most commanding and eligible of the many, by which the town is surrounded. The purchase was made at the price of five thousand five hundred and fifty-one dollars and eighty-six cents ($5,551.86) of which $300 was paid in cash, the residue to be paid in three equal annual payments of $1,750.62 each, with interest for which said several payments the thirteen acting Trustees made their joint notes which are further secured by the vendor's lien reserved in the deed conveying said property to the Trustees. An apt and proper deed of general warranty conveying said 43¼ acres of land to your Trustees, has been duly executed by the vendor, Levi Leonard, and his wife, and admitted to record in the Clerk's office, of the County Court of Upshur County. Whereupon by operation of law your Trustees became a corporation. Your Trustees have received from the citizens of Buckhannon and Upshur County good and solvent subscriptions amounting to the sum of $12,000 to aid in the purchase of a site, and the erection of proper buildings thereon, payable, one-fourth when the work on the buildings shall be commenced, the residue in three equal payments at three, six and nine months thereafter.

Your Trustees did not deem it advisable for the short time intervening between the time of the location of the Seminary and the meeting of the Conference to put a financial agent in the field. Your Trustees recommend that the Conference appoint as financial agent for the ensuing Conference year the Rev. A. J. Lyda, D.D., and that he be paid a salary of $1,000 and his traveling and moving expenses.

Messrs. Henry K. List, J. C. McGrew and Henry Logan, named by the Conference as Trustees of the Seminary, declined to act as Trustees, we therefore, recommend the appointment by the Conference in the room and stead of said persons, Messrs. W. A. Wilson of Wheeling, J. C. Bardall of Moundsville, and S. P. McCormick of Kingwood. We further recommend the names of Messrs. Chas. W. Lynch of Clarksburg, Chas. F. Scott of Parkersburg, J. H. Hanson of Buckhannon, and the Reverends S. R. D. Prickett, George E. Hite, and C. H. Lakin, as reserves, from which the Board of Trustees may fill any vacancy or vacancies that may occur on the Board.

The agent's salary and traveling expenses are to be paid out of collections he and the preachers may take for that purpose.

We recommend that the Board of Trustees be authorized to proceed in the erection of suitable Seminary buildings on the site selected as aforesaid, at such time, and on such plans as the Board shall in its judgment deem best, and also to equip, employ teachers, fix salaries for the same, sell scholarships, fix tuition fees and put said Institution in running order.

Whereas, The West Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, desiring to establish within its boundaries a Conference Seminary for the education of the youth of both sexes in the higher branches of learning, and to this end appointed a Board of Sixteen Trustees of the proposed Seminary, and instructed them to proceed as soon as practicable after its last session, to select a suitable location for such Seminary, and give publicity to their action in the premises; and also to procure a charter of incorporation for said Board of Trustees; and

Whereas, The said Trustees have located said Seminary at the town of Buckhannon in Upshur County, and have purchased and procured, to be conveyed to them by good and sufficient deed, a certain parcel of land in the said county for the use of the said Seminary, which has been recorded in said County; all of which having been duly reported by said Trustees to this Annual Conference, have been by it accepted, ratified and confirmed; and

Whereas, It is desired that the Board of Trustees of said Conference (Seminary), already appointed, should become a body corporate to hold, receive, manage and control, for the use of said Seminary, the land so purchased for it as aforesaid, and all other property, real, personal or mixed, which said Trustees or any other person may now have or hold for the use of said Seminary, or which may be hereafter given, bequeathed, devised, granted, conveyed, or in any other manner acquired for its use; and

Whereas, It is deemed essential to the permanency and success of said Seminary that the general management and supervision shall at all times be under the ultimate control and direction of this Conference until otherwise ordered; therefore,

Resolved, 1st, That this Conference will, at each annual session thereof, appoint sixteen persons to act as a Board of Trustees for said Seminary, all of whom shall be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in good standing, eight of whom shall be traveling preachers and eight laymen, residing within the bounds of this Conference.

2nd, That the Trustees so appointed shall continue in office until their successors are appointed and have signified in writing to the Secretary of this Conference their acceptance of this trust.

3rd, That when any person appointed such Trustee shall permanently remove beyond the bounds of this Conference, or cease to be a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, his office as such Trustee shall become vacant; and such vacancies shall be filled by a majority of the remaining Trustees until the next annual session of this Conference.

4th, That the said Trustees now appointed be, and they are hereby directed to cause themselves and their successors to be incorporated under the laws of West Virginia for the purpose hereinbefore set

forth, and to provide in such charter of incorporation that all vacancies which shall occur in the corporate body by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by selections from the persons then constituting the said Board of Trustees for said Seminary.

5th, That when the said Trustees shall have been incorporated, as aforesaid, and duly organized as such corporation, it shall be the duty of said Trustees, by proper deeds, assignments and transfers, to convey, transfer and deliver to such corporation all property, real, personal or mixed, which they may have or hold in trust for said Seminary.

6th, That the said Trustees shall report their action in the premises to the next session of this Conference.

A. J. LYDA, President,
E. H. ORWEN, Secretary.

## Resolution by The Laymen's Electoral Conference.

Resolved, That the educational interest of the West Virginia Conference deserves a more active support on the part of the Laity of the Church and that this Electoral Conference heartily commends the action of the Annual Conference in the establishment of the Conference Seminary.

In changing our point of view now from the minutes of the Annual Conference to the minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Conference Seminary, let us keep in mind that in the Conference session of 1885 that body, by the adoption of a resolution, put itself on record as ceasing all effort directed toward regaining control of the Northwestern Virginia Academy located at Clarksburg. For twenty years the educational aspirations of the Conference had been stalemated. There is some evidence that this may have been due to halting between two opinions.

There had been resolutions looking toward a revival of conference educational activity in this academy. At other times other resolutions proposed a complete break with the past and the building of an entirely new educational enterprise. The Conference seemed unable to choose between these two courses. When it was finally established that one course was no longer open to them for choice, their progress along the other was surprisingly rapid.

The board of Trustees of the Centenary Fund of the year 1885 was enlarged in September, 1886. Under the name of "The Board of Trustees of the West Virginia Conference Seminary," the members were instructed by the Conference to secure a charter of incorporation, to choose a location, and secure a site for the school and to give due publicity to their official acts.

Acting under the above mandate, the board solicited the interest of many West Virginia towns and cities in the location of the school. The sessions of the board for the purposes of choosing a location and purchasing a site began April 13, 1887. No decision was reached at the first meeting, which was held in the Buckhannon Methodist Episcopal Church, located at the corner of Main and Florida streets, now the site of the post office. The board held its second meeting in Parkersburg on May 17. The third meeting was held at Philippi on July 13.

It is interesting to note that there were thirteen of the sixteen members of the board present at this meeting on the thirteenth of July and that on the thirteenth ballot of the next day's session they reached the decision to locate the Seminary in Buckhannon. What a bone for both friends and hecklers! The former will see in this unwitting challenge to the superstition of unlucky numerals a forecast of the school's most wholesome growth from one of secondary rank and uncertain prospect, to a sturdy college with graduating classes of seventy or more members, all in the short period of fifty years. The latter will ascribe all the calamities that express to them the difference between what is, and what might have been, in the life of the school, to the blindness of the well-meaning founders who failed to see the hand of the fates writing in triplicate this omen of their displeasure.

The thirteen members of the board present and taking part in the important meeting that fixed the location of

the school were J. A. Barnes, J. A. Fullerton, L. H. Jordan, A. J. Lyda, B. F. Martin, H. C. McWhorter, E. H. Orwen, A. M. Poundstone, J. W. Reger, A. B. Rohrbough, L. L. Stewart, W. R. White, and Samuel Woods.

Before the location of the Seminary was determined, its choice was conditioned by a resolution passed by the Board making it contingent upon the citizens of the place chosen, being willing within a reasonable time to sell suitable and sufficient land for the site.

The choice of the location was followed by a meeting of the Board in Buckhannon on July 15. The purpose of this meeting was to secure for the school a suitable site in a convenient location with respect to the town. After viewing available sites they closed an option with Messrs. Daniel Carper and W. F. Carper for sixty acres of land lying in the area now comprising North Buckhannon.

Before the option was closed, some apprehension was expressed about the accessibility of the Seminary to the town, there being no satisfactory bridge across the river from North Buckhannon to the island. This objection was not taken seriously at the time, but a little later it was regarded as so significant that a meeting of the Board was called in Buckhannon on August 29, and the uncertainty of securing such a bridge without assuming the responsibility for its construction was the basis for asking to be released from the conditions of the option.

On being released from their option on the sixty-acre tract in North Buckhannon, the board entered into negotiations with Mr. Levi Leonard for the purchase of the site on which the school was and is located. The site comprises forty-three acres and fifty-three square rods, for which the Board agreed to pay $5,551.86 as follows: $300.00 down and the residue in three equal annual payments of $1,750.62 each, with interest.

Instructions of the Conference having been carried out to the point of determining the location of

the Seminary and purchasing grounds for its campus, the Board appointed its next meeting for Parkersburg, October 4, at which place and time the Annual Conference would be in session. There they presented to the Conference a full report of their official acts, received the approval of the Conference, and made plans to raise necessary funds for the erection of a suitable building.

While the date of record, appointed for the Board's Parkersburg meeting was October 4, their minutes show that they held an evening session there on October 3 and other sessions on October 4, 8, and 10. One senses in the minutes of their proceedings an atmosphere of confidence and purposefulness pervading their activities.

The personnel of the Board was also of strong, good men. (A list of the names of those who have served in the capacity of members of the Board of Trustees will be found in the Appendix to this volume.) The Reverend A. J. Lyda had been chairman of the Board in its several sessions already held. However, in planning for the raising of building funds, a need was felt for Mr. Lyda's services in the set-up for that purpose, and, in the reorganization of the Board that ensued, the Hon. Samuel Woods was made chairman. In this capacity Mr. Woods continued in active and efficient service until the time of his death, February 17, 1897.

As throwing some light upon a condition in which our generation has witnessed great improvement, we relate here that President Hutchinson, to attend Mr. Woods's funeral at that mid-winter season, entrained at Buckhannon the day before, reaching Philippi after changes and incidental loss of much time at Weston, Clarksburg, and Grafton. The round trip, including necessary time at Philippi which was twenty miles away by the highway, required nearly three days.

# 5

## The Business of Building

DUE to the fact that a mandate from the Annual Conference allowed the Board to go ahead with the plans to erect a suitable building on the campus and also to make ready for the opening of the Seminary as soon as the problems of money-raising and construction would permit, the Board held ten meetings in the next three years following the session in Parkersburg. Of these meetings four were held at Grafton, three in Buckhannon, and one each in Fairmont, Point Pleasant, and Weston. The three last named were appointed with respect to the sessions of the Annual Conference of 1888, 1889, and 1890, respectively.

In their session of October 8, 1887, the Board of Trustees appointed a committee, consisting of B. F. Martin, L. H. Jordan, and W. R. White, to secure the services of a competent architect to draft plans and prepare specifications for the erection of a suitable building with an estimated probable cost not to exceed $25,000. (Those who remember the original building well, will seriously question whether it could be duplicated in this year of our Lord 1939 for materially less than $100,000.) Mr. A. M. Poundstone was appointed and instructed to employ workmen to quarry and deliver upon the Seminary ground as soon as possible the building rock donated by Mr. M. Jackson. The treasurer of the Board, Mr. B. F. Martin of Grafton, was at the same time instructed to honor any drafts made by A. M. Poundstone to pay for

# PRESIDENTS OF THE COLLEGE

Dr. Wallace B. Fleming
1915-1922

Dr. E. Guy Cutshall
1923-1925

Dr. Homer E. Wark
1926-1931

Dr. Roy McCuskey
1931-

labor and for other necessary expense in carrying out the instructions of the Board.

On the recommendation of the committee on plans, Mr. E. W. Wells of Wheeling was employed as the architect for the building.

The Board, in a session held in Buckhannon April 10-12, 1888, appointed a local executive committee consisting of L. H. Jordan, J. W. Reger, and A. M. Poundstone. This committee was created at the request of the treasurer. Its chief function was to pass on all bills before they were presented to him for payment.

A building committee was appointed, consisting of J. C. Bardall, S. P. McCormick, A. M. Poundstone, H. C. McWhorter, L. H. Jordan, and J. W. Reger. The duties of this committee were to

> proceed as soon as practicable to advertise for and receive bids for laying the foundation of the proposed Seminary Building, and for the erection of the walls thereof, and for all the materials of every kind, and the workmanship necessary to put the building under roof, and for roofing the same, and providing the material therefor according to the architects plans and specifications; and also to receive separate bids for the foundation alone, and for the walls and roof separately from the foundation, with all necessary materials therefor, and also for the foundation, walls, roof and necessary material therefor as a whole, and at their discretion to enter into contract therefor, to be reported to the Board for approval or rejection.

It is evident that the Board did not look upon membership on the building committee as a purely honorary distinction. One senses from the character of these instructions to the committee that the coffers of the Board were not overflowing with ducats. One senses also that these men who had accepted service in this new educational enterprise of the church were not lacking in zeal for the discharge of the responsibilities committed to them.

The Board as a whole entered minutely into the matter of the exact location of the building upon the campus.

After considering some resolutions designed to establish the site in terms of measured distances from the thorofares now named College Avenue and Meade Street, it was decided to locate it on the crest of the slight knoll on the campus with its front facing toward College Avenue. This decision was adhered to, and when the present Administration Hall was built in 1905, replacing the original structure destroyed by fire, it was erected upon a larger foundation covering the same spot.

A contract was awarded to George Croll on August 30, 1888, for the construction of the stone foundation for the consideration of $4,167, less $1.75 per perch for all stone furnished by the Trustees.

On October 11, 1888, the Board of Trustees authorized their President in the name and behalf of the Board to enter into contract with Henry O'Blenness for the erection and completion of the superstructure of the Seminary Building. His bid of $23,332 was according to the plans and specifications prepared by Architect E. W. Wells, to be completed on or before the first day of July, 1890, and to be enclosed on or before the first day of December, 1889. The contractor was given permission to make the brick for the walls of the building of clay dug from the campus. (When the writer entered the school in March, 1891, there were still some scars on the landscape made by removing clay for the manufacture of bricks.) These bricks became a consideration again in awarding the contract for the construction of Administration Hall. They were cleaned and used for filling in the walls of the present structure.

At the time the above contract was entered into, the treasurer's report showed a balance of $1,689.76. In view of contracts now made, implying payment of sums exceeding $25,000, the Board did some careful planning to forestall financial embarrassment. These plans embraced, first, a campaign to collect on pledges already

made; second, a campaign to secure new pledges; third, a bond issue of fifteen thousand dollars secured by a lien on all the tangible assets of the school. A fourth step taken to insure the continuance of the work of building and equipping the school shows better, perhaps than any of the others the faith of the Trustees in the enterprise they were fostering. Twelve of them signed a note making themselves severally and collectively responsible for the payment of a loan of three thousand dollars which they secured from the First National Bank of Grafton. These members were J. C. Bardall, J. A. Fullerton, L. H. Jordan, A. J. Lyda, B. F. Martin, H. C. McWhorter, E. H. Orwen, A. M. Poundstone, J. W. Reger, A. B. Rohrbough, L. L. Stewart, and Samuel Woods.

# 6

# Administration of President B. W. Hutchinson 1890-1898

## EMPLOYING A FACULTY

ON JUNE 12, 1890, the Trustees turned their attention to the business of employing a president and a staff of teachers for the Seminary. The record is brief. In seven lines we are told that applications and recommendations were read, that B. F. Martin moved to tender B. W. Hutchinson the presidency at a salary of $1,000, that J. A. Fullerton moved to amend by making the salary $1,200, and that the motion as amended was adopted.

How many men were under consideration and who they were, aside from the one favored as their choice, is unrevealed. The new, first president of the West Virginia Conference Seminary was already known somewhat among the leaders of Methodism in the West Virginia Conference, having been appointed as a young man a few years earlier to fill a vacancy in the pastorate of the Sistersville M. E. Church. The Board evidently felt that his qualifications for the discharge of the responsibilities they were asking him to assume, put him in a class where he had no competitor. His able administration of the affairs of the school from July, 1890 to February, 1898 demonstrated the wisdom of their judgment.

An excerpt from an appreciation of the late Dr. George C. Wilding, written by Dr. Hutchinson some years

ago, will shed some light upon the circumstances leading to Dr. Hutchinson's appointment as president of the Seminary.

My connection with Doctor Wilding began more than forty years ago at Ohio Wesleyan, when I was an undergraduate and he a "visitor" from the West Virginia Conference. At that time he dropped into my mind and heart the seed or suggestion that when I was through with my education, I should come to West Virginia and help them start their prospective seminary or college, which was then being projected. This led to my supplying the old Sistersville Circuit under him as Presiding Elder in the summer of 1884. He renewed the suggestion at that time concerning the proposed institution of learning which they hoped to found within the next few years. In the meantime Doctor Wilding transferred to the Central Illinois Conference, and later to the Pacific Northwest, and I entered the school of theology and later joined the New England Southern Conference. But the leaven which he planted did its work, and one night while I was pastor in the City of Providence, R. I., in the summer of 1890, a telegram from Buckhannon, W. Va., reached me, offering me the presidency of the West Virginia Conference Seminary (now Wesleyan College). At once I thought of Wilding, and I knew it was his suggestion that lay back of this offer. . . . Whatever work I wrought there during the years 1890-1898 is thus vitally connected with the memory of this Godly Welsh-American Methodist preacher. Peace to his memory.

Two members of the teaching staff were chosen in a subsequent session of the Board of Trustees in the meeting of June 11-13, 1890. These were J. F. Ogden and Emma B. Tavenner. Professor Ogden, who was an experienced public-school teacher and administrator, was assigned to the responsibility of organizing and administering a department in the Seminary for the education and training of teachers. It is a matter of interest that the school's activity in this important field for serving its constituents dates from the very beginning. To Miss Tavenner was assigned the teaching of History and higher English.

During the summer President Hutchinson prepared and published a four-page prospectus designed to give publicity to the work of the School now scheduled to begin September 3. Before the date of publication of

the prospectus, the Board had employed three more teachers. Professor Frank B. Trotter, a graduate of Roanoke College, was employed to teach Latin, French, and German. "There were giants in the earth in those days." Mrs. B. W. Hutchinson, a Syracuse-University Bachelor of Music, was made preceptress and head of the department of Music. D. T. E. Casteele, M.D., was employed to teach Chemistry, Physiology, and Zoology. This good doctor, I seem to recall, had had military training which he generously dispensed to us under the guise of a keeping-fit program. We stood at attention, presented arms, shouldered arms, grounded arms, forward marched, halted, right-faced, left-faced, right-wheeled, left-wheeled, *et cetera ad infinitum,* in low, middle, and high gear. My appreciation of the Doctor's labor to build and conserve health has grown with the passing of the years.

Six more teachers had been added to the staff before the close of the school year in June, 1891. Three of these constituted the staff of a business department. They were Professor D. M. McIver, Mrs. Alma G. McIver, and Mr. W. H. Atha. Miss Ida V. Kent was employed to teach voice culture and piano; Miss Maude McFarland, drawing and painting; and Mr. D. E. Phillips, normal school subjects and English during the third, or spring term of the first year, March to June, 1891. This is the same Dr. Phillips who taught in Wesleyan during the summer sessions of 1935 and 1936. In the meantime, he had been identified many years with the University of Denver and more recently with the State Teachers' College at Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

All the fields of work indicated above, with the exception of the business department, had been anticipated in the preparation of the prospectus issued in the summer prior to the opening of the school. This prospectus

is so abounding in material vital to this narrative that we reproduce it here.

THE WEST VIRGINIA
CONFERENCE SEMINARY

Buckhannon, West Virginia

A HIGH GRADE INSTITUTION OF LEARNING FOR BOTH SEXES

Will open its Doors for Students September 3, 1890

OFFERS SUPERIOR ADVANTAGES AT SMALL EXPENSE

FACULTY

REV. B. W. HUTCHINSON, A.M., B.D., PRESIDENT,_____
_____ Psychology, Ethics and Greek
J. F. OGDEN _____Normal Department and Mathematics
FRANK B. TROTTER, A.B. _____Latin, German and French
D. T. E. CASTEELE, M.D. _____Chemistry, Physiology and Zoology
MISS EMMA B. TAVENNER _____History and Higher English
MRS. RUTH E. HUTCHINSON, Mus.B.__Preceptress and Musical Dept.
_____ _____Voice Culture and Piano
_____ _____Painting and Drawing
_____ _____Assistant in English
(The vacant places in the faculty will be filled as rapidly as possible.)

LOCATION AND BUILDING

The Seminary starts off with a most encouraging outlook. Buckhannon is almost an ideal location, a beautiful county town, near the centre of the State, about 1,400 feet above sea level, free from saloons, well supplied with churches, and probably as free from evil influences as any town of the size in the State. The people are hospitable and intelligent, and are ready to extend a cordial welcome to our students.

The splendid new Seminary building is the best school or college building in the State; beautiful, substantial, convenient, and admirably adapted to school purposes. It is of brick, 106 x 80 feet, three stories in height, and stands upon an eminence overlooking the river and town, in the midst of a most beautifully situated campus of forty-three acres. It is only a few minutes walk from the centre of the town and railroad station. The institution is to be congratulated on the acquirement of such a valuable property.

Students coming via Grafton or Parkersburg will leave the B. & O. R. R. at Clarksburg, and reach Buckhannon by the West Virginia and Pittsburgh R. R. Two trains daily.

## DESIGN AND SCOPE OF THE SCHOOL

The design of the Seminary is to furnish to students of both sexes opportunities for a thorough education under Christian influences. It will be the aim not simply to make scholars, but to develop character; to promote the highest Christian culture and the truest refinement of thought and conduct.

## COURSES OF STUDY

It is the intention of the authorities to establish a full college course just as soon as the resources of the institution will permit.

For the present the Seminary will not confer degrees. The courses of study cover four years, but may require longer or shorter time, according to the advancement of the student on entering. When graduated, the student will be prepared for the Freshman, Sophmore or Junior class of our American colleges, depending on the grade of the college.

THE CLASSICAL COURSE will embrace three or four years of solid work in Latin, one less in Greek, with due proportion of Mathematics, History and Natural Science, giving careful attention to the study of English.

THE SCIENTIFIC or PHILOSOPHIC COURSE omits Greek and includes German or French, and permits the student to devote more attention to the Natural sciences.

THE LITERARY COURSE: In this course Latin and Greek are elective. Special attention is given to History, Literature, Science and Modern Languages. This course is much the same as that usually pursued in ladies' seminaries, and with its long list of elective studies, must prove very attractive. Psychology, Ethics, Christian Evidences, etc., may be chosen as elective in the above course.

NORMAL COURSE: Especially adapted to the wants of teachers. This department is in charge of Prof. J. F. Ogden, a well known and successful teacher of large experience. Teachers will do well to correspond with Professor Ogden concerning the work of this department.

The above courses in Liberal Arts will give a general idea of the range of studies presented.

Students will have the privilege of electing certain studies suited to their individual taste or adapted to their prospective calling in life. It is our purpose to meet the needs of students, so that each one may find his proper place and do the best work of which he is capable.

The limits of this announcement exclude further details about courses of study.

THE PREPARATORY COURSE will provide for boys and girls, thorough instruction in the common English branches, and fit them for the regular courses. Primary pupils not received.

Special attention will be given to the study of the English language. Rhetorical exercises will be required of all students. That very important subject, the art of putting things, will be given an important place.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT: Instruction in music will be made a specialty and assigned a prominent place in the curriculum. It will be in charge of a lady who took her degree in music at Syracuse University, and who has had a number of years successful experience in managing this department in other institutions. Competent assistants will be employed as required. A thorough and systematic course will be carefully prepared, giving students an opportunity to lay the foundation of a broad musical education, and become familiar with some of the best works of the old masters, and also of modern composers.

Beginners and pupils in every stage of advancement will be received and assigned to their respective grades. A fine teacher of voice culture is expected to be in attendance.

ART DEPARTMENT: We expect to be able to offer the services of an excellent teacher in this department. The instruction will be such as is usually furnished in ladies' seminaries, embracing drawing and painting in their several varieties, including portraiture and sketching from nature; also History of Fine Arts and Art criticism.

## RELIGIOUS

The school is under the patronage and control of the West Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and will be positively Christian, but in no sense sectarian. Students will attend daily chapel exercises, and on Sabbath one of the several churches in town. The Bible will be accorded a prominent place in the life of the institution. Our purpose is to make the moral and religious life of the Seminary such that parents shall feel safe in sending their children to us.

The discipline of the institution will be kind but firm. None but persons of good moral character will be received as students. Such rules as experience has proved necessary to good order will be adopted. Let students bring a letter from pastor or teacher certifying to their moral character, and stating the studies already pursued. The faculty will endeavor to look after the welfare of the students, aiming to supply as far as possible the lack of parental counsel and control.

## EXPENSES

Tuition in regular courses, $25 per year, payable in advance. A trifle more is charged when paid by the term. Music and Art, extra. The charges in these departments will be reasonable.

There is probably no institution of equal grade in the country whose charges are so low as the above.

Board and furnished room in town costs $2.50 to $3.00 per week in private families. Rooms, without board, can be obtained at a low price. Students can board themselves very cheap—it has been done for less than $1.00 per week. Arrangements are being made for club boarding for the young men. This will probably cost about $1.50 per week. The authorities of the Seminary will take a personal interest in securing accommodations for students in good families. Homes for young ladies can be furnished in advance in some of the good families in town, if they will write to the President before the opening of the term. Some of the best families will board students. A list of boarding places and rooms may be seen at the office of the President.

Let no young person who desires an education become discouraged on account of poverty. Usually, when a student is in earnest, some way will open whereby he can remain in school. Better come even if you cannot see your way through. We shall do all we can to put students in the way of helping themselves, in order that they may remain in school.

## LIBRARY, READING ROOM, ETC.

Already a good beginning for a Library has been made, and a reading room is being arranged—free to all the students. Maps, apparatus, etc., are being procured. Two fine rooms have been set aside for the use of the Literary Societies, which will be organized at once.

Occasional lectures on educational or general themes will be delivered before the school.

It is the purpose of the Trustees to make the Seminary first-class in its appointments just as rapidly as possible. No inferior work is to be allowed. The school will furnish such advantages as shall make it unnecessary for our young people to go outside the State to seek an education.

## MISCELLANEOUS

All necessary text books can be obtained at the Seminary. Students should bring with them whatever books they now have—in many cases they will be the same as we use. Students should, if possible, reach Buckhannon a day or two before the opening of the term in order that they may arrange for rooms and boarding. Upon arrival, they should leave trunks at the station and proceed to the office of the President in the Seminary building. There, information concerning rooms, boarding, &c, can be obtained.

All students who expect to enter are requested to make their purpose known to the President in advance by letter. Lady students, especially, should do this, and also state whether they desire us to engage room and board for them. If they will state just when they will arrive, they will be met by the school authorities and shown to their stopping places.

Residents of town who receive roomers or boarders from the Seminary will be expected to take a personal interest in the students, and conscientiously guard their morals. Students will not be permitted to room at places not approved by the institution.

We cordially invite studious and well disposed young people of both sexes to our halls, and promise them thorough and systematic training. Our aim will not be to hurry students through a course of study in a superficial manner, but to teach them to observe and think, to become masters of their own powers, and thus qualified for true living and the highest success.

The Fall Term of ten weeks will begin September 3, at 10 a. m.

For fuller information in regard to the institution, its management, courses of study, etc., write to the President stating what information is desired.

Address,

REV. B. W. HUTCHINSON,
Buckhannon, West Virginia.

Following the election of Dr. Hutchinson to the presidency of the Seminary, he resigned the pastorate of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church in Providence, Rhode Island, and came early in July to Buckhannon. On his way into the state, stopping at Kingwood to meet with the executive committee of the Board of Trustees of the Seminary, he made the acquaintance while there of F. B. Trotter, who was at the time teaching a summer session of school in Kingwood. This meeting of the two men eventuated in the President's securing the election of F. B. Trotter to a place on the staff of the Seminary to teach Latin and Modern Languages. Professor Trotter remained with the school seventeen years during which time he had served it as teacher, vice president, acting president, and had witnessed its transformation from a seminary into a college. He resigned in 1907 to accept a position in West Virginia University. Never, perhaps, did two men live and labor together in greater harmony of spirit and purpose for the building of an institution.

When President Hutchinson reached Buckhannon on July 9 or 10, 1890 to make preparation for the opening of the school in September, he found the new building

receiving its finishing touches on the inside. It stood apart on the Campus which had been fenced from the Leonard farm. There was no street open on any side and but one approach at the end of a street on the southwest corner (Meade street then ended at the Atkinson-gateway corner of the campus). Old mortar boxes and other rubbish from the building littered the premises. There were no walks. Maple trees had been planted along the sides of the smaller inclosure which marked off the one building from the larger part of the campus.

There was no money in the treasury with which to furnish the empty building. No provision had been made for supplying equipment—not even a window shade or a chair—to open the school a few weeks later.

Up to that date the Trustees had spent about $38,500 in buying the site and erecting a building, on which there was a mortgage debt of $20,000 at six per cent. Such was the situation as the Board of Trustees and the West Virginia Conference, by faith, launched their new educational institution.

The way had been preparing for some years. The Conference felt very keenly the need of having their own school within the state, and now the time had come to make the venture. Some young people, ready to enter, were awaiting the opening of the institution.

Buckhannon was widely recognized as a good location for such a school. It was a glad day for the Methodism of West Virginia when the new institution opened its doors to receive students. The Church and the State would no longer have to lose their most promising young people because there was no suitable institution, under positive Christian influence, where they could be trained within the borders of their own state.

Methodism was the most numerous denomination in West Virginia, and the Conference desired to establish a school of its own to be maintained under strictly Chris-

tian ideals. The mineral and timber resources of the state were being opened up, the population was increasing, capital was coming in from the outside, and all sentiment agreed that the hour had struck to make this important educational venture. For a score of years the Annual Conference had been taking action looking toward this consummation. The field was ripe unto harvest.

The task which first confronted the President and the Executive Committee was to make known to the public the facilities to be offered to students, and to set about securing some furnishings for the empty building. Besides using local papers, the President, assisted by Professor Ogden, prepared and published a four-page prospectus, octavo size, setting forth the character of the proposed institution and the scope of the work to be done. At first the courses offered were only for secondary training, corresponding to a first-class high school. At this time there were only a few high schools in the entire state of West Virginia.

President Hutchinson was familiar with the work of the conference seminaries that had done so much for the Methodism of the nineteenth century, and he was shaping the school after their model.

The problem of finding equipment for the building before the approaching opening date now pressed for solution. Dr. John W. Reger, local trustee, came to the rescue by advancing the money to buy four or five hundred chairs suitable for the chapel and classrooms. Some school desks that had been used in the Wheeling Female College, now closed, were donated by friends in Wheeling. A desk and carpet for the President's office were secured. A carpet for the chapel platform was donated by one of the nearby pastors. A good secondhand piano was purchased, some window shades ordered, and other absolute necessities provided.

THE OPENING

It was with high hope and with no little anxiety that the members of the first Faculty met in the Seminary on the morning of September 3, 1890, to welcome and enroll the incoming students. The first student to enroll was Mr. Roy Reger, now of Charleston, who later married a Seminary girl, Miss Lillie King, and whose son, Roy Reger, Jr., was graduated from the College in the class of 1936. Seventy students were enrolled for this term of ten weeks.

The housing of students became at once a serious problem. There was no dormitory for either boys or girls. The President and the faculty gave careful attention to this important problem, and under their supervision, all of the students found living accomodations in the homes of the town. There was no college community or public sentiment accustomed to the requirements which colleges and schools find it necessary to impose on the homes where students have rooms. At first some friction arose from misunderstandings on the part of families having students in their homes. But, in the course of two or three years, the people of the town adjusted themselves to the reasonable requests of the faculty.

At seven o'clock in the evening the big bell in the tower sounded the signal for all students to be in their rooms. On the whole this regulation was fairly well observed. Rules which were enforced in 1890 would seem to be unduly strict now. Times have changed, and the students of the nineties were not so blase as many are in the nineteen-thirties. They took life seriously and probably would be thought unsophisticated by the present generation of students. But they had fine, solid traits of character, were studious and happy, and lived wholesome lives. A spirit of loyalty and cooperation prevailed between teachers and students. There was a close-

ness of touch and fellowship impossible where the student body is very large. The personal element figured largely in the work of these earlier years, and left its mark on the lives of the students.

Due to the meager opportunities for secondary education in the state the students entering the Seminary were, on the whole, somewhat retarded educationally. An investigation of the matter would probably reveal that the average age of students during the first few years was about equal to the present average age of college students in the corresponding curricular years. Such a condition made the problems of discipline lighter; for many of the students, having already borne serious responsibilities themselves, willingly gave full measure of cooperation in the maintenance of good school discipline.

At the outset, and until the year 1916, the school year was divided into three terms. During much of this time the length of the school year was thirty-eight weeks, and the terms were: fall term, ten weeks; winter and spring terms, each, fourteen weeks. This program was designed to make it possible for teachers in the public schools to be in attendance during both the fall and the spring terms. The length of the public school term at that time was sixteen weeks—two weeks longer than the winter term of the Seminary to which it corresponded.

Teachers intent on entering the spring term would register in advance or arrange their courses by correspondence, get their textbooks for the courses, make their preparation on the portion of the text the class might cover in the first two weeks of the term, and, in many instances, vie for leadership in their classes with those not subject to the teacher's handicap. The tuition for the three terms was seven, ten, and ten dollars, respectively, if paid by the term; but a rate of $25 for the year was granted if paid at the opening of the school year.

An outstanding event of the first year of the school's history was the visit paid by the West Virginia Annual Conference to it on October 4. The conference, in session at Weston, came over in a body to see the school and to attend the dedicatory service held in the auditorium of the Seminary. Bishop Cyrus D. Foss was presiding at the conference and made the dedicatory address. This occasion had been in preparation for some months by cooperative planning between the Board of Trustees of the Seminary and the leaders of the Annual Conference. It was a fitting climax to the work of the founders. It also was an auspicious entrance of the new institution upon the work for which it was designed. The occasion gave wide and wholesome advertisement of the school. New friends were made, old ones were confirmed and strengthened in their support.

### THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Elsewhere in this history will be recorded a list of the names of those who have served the school as trustees. However, it seems fitting here to name those who served during the period when the original building was under construction. They were: J. C. Bardall, J. A. Barnes, J. A. Fullerton, L. H. Jordan, A. J. Lyda, B. F. Martin, S. P. McCormick, H. C. McWhorter, E. H. Orwen, A. M. Poundstone, J. W. Reger, A. B. Rohrbough, L. L. Stewart, W. R. White, W. A. Wilson, and Samuel Woods.

S. P. McCormick, of Kingwood, died before the building was completed. The minutes of the meetings of the Board record his attendance at their sessions and bear testimony to his active interest. He, with J. C. Bardall and A. M. Poundstone, constituted the original building committee, appointed April 12, 1888.

At the session of the Annual Conference held in Weston, October 2-7, 1890, J. S. Withers and C. W.

Brockunier were elected to membership on the Board of Trustees and President B. W. Hutchinson was made a member ex officio. These elections raised the number of members of the Board from sixteen to eighteen, nine each of ministers and laymen.

Dr. Hutchinson speaks as follows of the men who, with him, constituted the Board of Trustees:

All of these men are worthy of mention for their faithful and self-sacrificing work in behalf of the institution. A number of them should have special mention because of conspicuous service in establishing the school and nurturing it during the early years of its history. Among the laymen the Hon. Samuel Woods, L.L.D., a graduate of Allegheny College, was President of the Board until his death, February 17, 1897. Judge Woods was prominent in locating the school, in securing the site and in erecting the building. He was a man of business ability, and he freely gave of his counsel in the affairs of the school until the time of his death.

The Hon. Benj. F. Martin, also a graduate of Allegheny College and a former member of Congress was treasurer of the Board until June, 1894, when on account of failing health he resigned. He died within the following school year. Mr. Martin worked harmoniously with the Board and was a valuable legal counselor. Both he and Judge Woods devoted much time and labor to the work of the Board.

The Rev. John W. Reger, D.D., a retired member of the Annual Conference and a resident of Buckhannon, was very influential in securing the location of the school at Buckhannon, and gave freely of his time and efforts up to the time of his death in the latter part of the year 1893.

The Rev. L. H. Jordan, District Superintendent of Buckhannon District, with residence at that time in Buckhannon, was another trustee who deserves mention for his untiring devotion and faithful work in behalf of the school. No one did more for the school at the beginning than he. He served for several years on the Executive Committee.

Captain A. M. Poundstone of Buckhannon was a devoted friend and helper for many years. As member of the building committee, as a counselor in the Board and in many other ways he rendered invaluable service.

The name of Jno. A. Barnes of Weston belongs here. He was elected secretary of the Board in 1894 and served faithfully for many years. He was a devoted friend of the school and a wise counselor in the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Wm. R. White should be mentioned in this connection. He had the honor of being the first State Superintendent of Free Schools in West Virginia. He died within the school year 1893-94.

Various other trustees deserve high praise for their devotion to the school and their sacrificial service in its behalf. When, in the years 1891-93 we undertook the difficult task at that time, of raising twenty thousand dollars to pay off the bonded debt of the school, Judge Woods, Hon. B. F. Martin and Dr. Jno. W. Reger each contributed one thousand dollars, which were very generous gifts under the circumstances. Mr. Henry K. List of Wheeling, who was a member of the Board from 1885 to 1887 when sentiment was being created for the building of the school, gave two thousand five hundred dollars. It was the encouragement of these gifts, outstanding for that time, that enabled us to complete the campaign at the Annual Conference held at Grafton in September 1893.

Of the men who constituted the Board of Trustees at the time of the dedication of the building in 1890, Dr. Hutchinson is the only survivor as this narrative is being written. He lives in the city of Pittsburgh and continues to manifest a deep interest in all the affairs of the College.

The catalog of the first year of the school contains the names of 201 students. Of these, 167 were enrolled for the academic work. The others were in the departments of Art, Business and Music. President Hutchinson's survey of the year, appearing in the catalog, contains the following:

The record of the first year of the institution has been a pleasant surprise to many of the most sanguine friends of the enterprise. The Seminary has, in a very short time, taken front rank both in attendance and in the character of its work as well as in the advantages afforded. It is no longer an open question whether the time has come to establish the school: the record of the first year has answered that question. The success of the institution is without a parallel in the history of the state. It is gratifying to note the favor of the public and the class of patrons the school has had during its first year. The public has manifested a confidence in the management and the future of the enterprise that, from the start, has been most assuring.

During the year the school was blest with a gracious revival of religion, and it is our hope and prayer that a similar visitation may occur each succeeding year. To bring about such results will be the constant aim of the faculty.

It is noted elsewhere in the story of the erection of the Dormitory, one of the achievements of President Hutchinson's administration, that the enterprise waited upon the liquidation of a debt of $20,000 incurred in buying the grounds and in building and equipping the original building. The complete attainment of both objectives is there narrated.

The residence on the campus near the oak grove was completed in the spring of 1892. This was erected by President Hucthinson, at his own expense, under an agreement with the Board of Trustees that when he severed his connection with the school the Board would pay him the actual cost of construction, which was just over $2,000.

Aside from these two building projects and the raising of the debt of $20,000 mentioned above, the President devoted himself with much energy to the improvement of conditions in the school and the promotion of a spirit of good will and support for it throughout the conference. The writer has reason to believe that the President's zeal in this work laid the foundation for some of the friendships that, cultivated later in other administrations, culminated in generous gifts to the school.

The trend toward more advanced work in the seminary than purely secondary was early felt and given favorable reaction. In 1892 an extra year, designed to cover most if not all of the freshman year in colleges of the time, was added. Year by year the number electing to remain to pursue the more advanced courses increased. Hopes were strengthened that, ere long, the Seminary could be transformed into a college.

The later years of President Hutchinson's administration, outside of the enterprises already mentioned, were given to fostering and directing the development of the work of the Seminary along the lines implied in the

splendid organization he had given it. In his notes, prepared at the writer's request, he reveals his anxiety of those years to see the Seminary advanced to college status. He discloses that his resignation may have been in a measure influenced by the fact that the larger material resources necessary for the organization of a college were not a matter of promise for early realization.

During the years of Dr. Hutchinson's administration there were no operating deficits that were not cleaned up within the summer period following the years in which they were incurred. It follows that there was no accumulating debt. A thing still more astonishing is the fact that in addition to all his other responsibilities, he kept an itemized account of all receipts and expenditures during the period of his presidency.

That much of success is contingent on a good start, is expressed in the adage "A thing well begun is half done." Many aspects of this College, and of other colleges, are subject to frequent or occasional changes. In this way they keep measurably in adjustment with their ever changing environments. But there is an essential character of an institution that changes so slowly, if at all, that to the passing generations it imparts the impression of great permanence. It is on this essential character that such things as traditions hang. The writer fancies that in some mysterious way this essential character is a product of the patient, the painstaking, the prayerful labors of the founders and early administrators. Their sacrificial labors have turned to character of gold. In this category the writer sees such personalities as Martin, Reger, Woods, Poundstone, Barnes, Hutchinson, and Trotter.

When Dr. Hutchinson resigned and left at mid-year, February, 1898, to take up his duties as president of Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima, New York, it devolved upon Dr. F. B. Trotter to carry the responsibili-

ties of the presidency until the following summer, when the Board of Trustees filled the vacancy.

Dr. Trotter had been a member of the teaching staff from the beginning. He had also been next to the president in authority after the death of Professor J. F. Ogden in the summer of 1892. His quiet composure under responsibilities inspired confidence both in him and in the things for which he stood. So far as we remember, he did not undertake to form and inaugurate new policies during that brief half-year period. Perhaps the school did not need any. It had been in competent hands and his counsel had been freely sought and fully appreciated in determining its policies. Under Dr. Trotter's guidance, the year's work was carried successfully through its second half, as it had been begun in the first.

Dr. Trotter returned quietly to the routine of his classroom and his office work, essentially that of dean, to which he had been trained by experience for more than five years. In this capacity he remained with the school until June, 1907, when he resigned to take a position in West Virginia University. There, successively, as teacher, dean, president, and again as teacher, he has served efficiently, giving to the University its longest administration, fourteen years, and, in the judgment of this alumnus, its greatest period of material expansion. The foregoing statement, not strictly Wesleyan history, is included to show the caliber of the man who, next to President Hutchinson, had most to do in giving character to this school in the early period of its history.

# 7

## Administration of President S. L. Boyers 1898-1900

THE administration of President Simon L. Boyers was of "few days and full of trouble." Nothing that we shall say here should be interpreted as reflecting upon either his motives or his integrity. He was a man of fine Christian ideals, and his purposes, in the large, were all good. The educational opportunities he had enjoyed indicate a broad enough culture to meet the needs of the responsibilities to which he was introduced when he accepted the presidency here. Perhaps a professional psychoanalyst, if there had been one then, could have revealed to us just what it was he lacked that was indispensable to his success here.

In the spring of the year 1899 the President had almost the entire front part of the campus, the part which we now keep clipped with the lawnmower, planted in potatoes, in part, and the rest of the area sown in oats. This agricultural enterprise covered the terrain to a line about continuous with the front of the Gymnasium. The trees were very small then, except the oaks of the oak grove, and the only buildings on the ground at that time were the Seminary, the Dormitory, and the Residence. The goal to be attained by farming the campus is not a matter of record. Perhaps the potatoes, if any, could be utilized in the dormitory, and perhaps, the asinine proclivities of some of the unpolished representatives from the hills among the student body had suggested to him that they could take care of the oats. They did.

After threading their way for months through the growing potatoes and oats to attend classes, it would have been no less than a miracle if the active brain of some farmer boy had not guided his hand in the use of a scythe on the eve of his departure at the end of the school year. In the darkness these lads seemed unable to distinguish the line demarcating the boundary between oats and potatoes. One such young man, whose alibi for that night was not established beyond a doubt, was subjected to rather stern discipline by the President. Another, who today, is a competent and respected member of the staff of one of the teachers' colleges of the state, will tell you privately that he got rid of the temptation to swing the scythe on that occasion only by the time honored method of yielding to it.

The students could not reconcile these agricultural proclivities and their pursuit on the campus with their own preconceived notions of an institution of higher learning. They could not be made to take the situation seriously.

There is no more signal promise of failure in a leader than an unwillingness to make generous use of the experience and skill of his lieutenants in the things they can do well. If this unwillingness is born of fear that he will not be thought competent unless he attends to all the details that come under his very general authority, then it is evidence of an inferiority complex that is nearly one hundred per cent fatal. The fact that there was an aide at hand, skilled in managing students and meeting their problems, should have given the President freedom for the larger responsibilities of his office, but he arrogated to himself these functions in the performance of which he had only indifferent skill.

Among the ineptitudes of this administration the climax came early in the second school year when one of the students was seriously wounded by a pistol shot while

he was supposedly indulging in a Halloween prank. This instantly struck through the Board of Trustees an attitude of tensest interest in the affair. Reports that the President had authorized night watchmen to carry guns and to shoot to protect the property of the school against pranksters, caused the Board to assemble to make an investigation. Much of what transpired in this investigation is a matter of record in the book of minutes of the Board of Trustees. One gathers from the record that there had been large lack of discretion on the part of the responsible head in the planning and the (near) execution by his agents.

These events served only to intensify the bitterness of the President toward the man who would have saved him from all this embarrassment if only he had been permitted to do so. The President tendered a spirited resignation on the eve of the following commencement when the Board of Trustees would not be persuaded to share his attitude.

The turmoil of this brief administration did not appear to affect adversely the attendance at the school. The total enrollment increased with fair regularity from the beginning in 1890 until about the time of the organization of the College in the first decade of this century. The decline at that time in the attendance at the Seminary, in which mostly secondary work was done, was and is thought to have been in response to the program of high-school building in the state, begun about the same time. It was such a circumstance that made it seem opportune to effect the organization of the college.

President Boyers rendered many years of useful service in other fields after the two years spent in the work here. He died October 1, 1937.

# 8

## Administration of President John Wier
## 1900-1907

"AIM HIGH." "Hitch your wagon to a star." "Do large things." "Magnify your office so others will see it as large as it really is." These are epigrams one can easily imagine as underlying the "philosophy" of life of the third president of the West Virginia Conference Seminary.

He was chosen in the summer of the year 1900 and entered upon the duties of his office soon after his election. Using the size of the graduating classes as our criterion for judging the ebb and flow of public interest in the school, we note that, beginning with the first class in 1891 and continuing to the last Seminary Class in 1908, these run as follows: 5, 6, 16, 11, 12, 17, 31, 24, 22, 38, 28, 40, 44, 47, 42, 44, 38, and 31.

Let us make a few observations on this method of judging. It can have little application to the first two classes, because only those who had entered with advanced standing on credits earned elsewhere could graduate in these classes. From the nature of the case these classes were necessarily small. With the average age somewhat higher then than now for students doing the corresponding years of work, many of them completed the Seminary course in three years. The numbers changed in response to changes in the organization and administration of the work of the public schools of the state, and to changes in the required preparation of teachers.

The total attendance figures for the years, corresponding to the graduating classes given above, are: 201, 245, 255, 253, 307, 340, 343, 360, 386, 388, 488, 507, 526, 442, 429, 407, 421, and 373. Some of these totals include the registration of a summer session and some do not. These figures are just as difficult to analyze as the others unless one takes into account the changes that were taking place in the public school system and in the requirements for the preparation of teachers. The school has always had in attendance a considerable number of teachers either experienced or in the making. The increase of a hundred in 1901 over 1900 is, no doubt, due in part to the fact that the students of the summer term were included in the summary for 1901. There is no such item in the summary for the year 1900. The corresponding figures show a decrease of ten in the size of the graduating class of 1901 from that of 1900.

There was an increasing number of the graduates of the Seminary that continued in attendance, doing advanced work after their graduations. This fact contributed strength to the thought that it was to be the destiny of the school to become an institution of collegiate grade. This trend was felt as early as about 1892 or 1893. It gained force with the passing of the years. The new President was just the man to give acceleration to the idea. We soon had a score or more of students remaining after graduation to pursue their studies.

The President portrayed the future of the institution in such gorgeous colors that when we had looked on the picture the name of "college" seemed far too modest for the great school it was going to become. Before we emerged from the spell of his contagious enthusiasm, our little plant, consisting of the modest Seminary Building, the more modest Music Hall, and the Dormitory minus the addition of 1929, had been burdened with the name "The Wesleyan University of West Virginia." The

President was a man who envisioned things in the large. Indeed, his visions were so large that one who had gotten his impressions through the President's portrayals sometimes failed to recognize the reality when he saw it. He seemed not to know that adjectives and adverbs had positive and comparative degrees. He used only the superlative.

Most likely, it was a president having personal qualities much like those of President Wier who made the occasion for the conundrum, "Why is a college president like a college campus?" The answer to this is found in the pun, "Both lie about the college." College presidents are not liars any more than college deans, whom I would defend to the last ditch against such a charge. They develop a magnanimous generosity in their appraisal of both the tangible and the intangible assets of their respective institutions. Study that and see if you can find anything either wicked or criminal in it.

The catalogs published in the years 1904, 1905, and 1906, advertise the school as The Wesleyan University of West Virginia, except that in 1906 the catalog was published in two issues, June and December, and the later issue bears the name "West Virginia Wesleyan College." Of record in the minutes of the Board of Trustees for June 5, 1906 is found this entry: "It was ordered by unanimous vote that the name of this school 'The Wesleyan University of West Virginia' be and is hereby changed to 'West Virginia Wesleyan College.' "

Since the commencement of 1906 occurred two days after the order changing the name, the first college class, that of 1905, was the only one made orphan by this act of the Board. This class was adopted in effect if not formally by its new parent.

For such a time as the fire that destroyed the Seminary, President Wier's personal qualities admirably fitted him for the promulgation of the idea that it was a

blessing in disguise. We were working in crowded quarters. The school had grown too large for the modest building in which it was housed. Instead of being an unqualified misfortune, the fire became an opportunity for the friends of education under the auspices of the Church to prove their zeal by the loyalty of their support under the existing circumstances. The erection of the new building is narrated elsewhere in this book.

It is likely that about this time President Wier began to feel that he had made his contribution to the school in the service of the past six years and that he would welcome an opportunity to serve elsewhere. He remained one more year, tendering his resignation, May 30, 1907, to take effect at the end of the following September.

# 9

## Administration of President Carl Gregg Doney 1907-1915

PRESIDENT DONEY'S administration running through eight years is exceeded only by President McCuskey's now under way in its ninth. Other administrations approaching these in length are: President Hutchinson's, seven and one-half years; President Wier's, seven; and President Fleming's, seven.

The election of Dr. Doney to the high office of President of West Virginia Wesleyan College occurred on July 12, 1907. This marked an important turning-point in his career. During the preceding fourteen years he had served as pastor of churches in Ohio and Washington, D. C. He left the pastorate of Hamline Church in Washington to accept this presidency. During the next twenty-seven years, until the time of his retirement in 1934, he contributed his service to the molding of the destinies of this College and, in turn, of Willamette University.

The physical assets of the college were advanced during his incumbency by the addition of both the Gymnasium and the Haymond Science Hall. Concrete walks, leading four ways from College Hall to College Avenue and Meade Street, replaced gravel walks, and a concrete walk, connecting with the new buildings mentioned above, was constructed. The fences on the college grounds along College Avenue and along Meade Street from its intersection with College Avenue to the driveway enter-

ing the campus, once needed to prevent domestic animals from wandering upon the campus, were removed. The Harmer Gateway and the Atkinson Gateway were constructed to improve the appearance of these approaches. In addition to the things enumerated, several minor but important internal alterations in the buildings were made to improve the service.

While the material additions and improvements made during this administration were outstanding for the time, President Doney's service for the school is in reality more noteworthy for the things he did to improve its educational program. At the end of the first year of his presidency the course of study given in the Seminary, but continued after the organization of the College, was eliminated. To replace it, the Academy was organized, not to make a bid for students of secondary school grade, but to minister to the needs of worthy students who had been deprived of high school advantages and yet wished to get ready to enter the College. As was expected, the attendance in the Academy diminished from year to year. Fourteen years later the Academy, no longer a necessity, was discontinued.

It is fitting that we should say a word here about the able support given to President Doney during the first two years of his administration by Dean W. A. Haggerty. He was, by the way, the first dean of the College. Dr. Trotter had exercised the functions of a dean, but with the title of vice-president. At the end of President Wier's administration the Board of Trustees created the office of dean and named Dr. Haggerty to fill it.

The minds of both the President and the Dean had been enriched for the organizational work they were called to do by wide educational contacts. The former was conversant with conditions at Ohio State, Ohio Wesleyan, Dennison, and Harvard Universities; the latter, at Ohio Wesleyan, Boston, and Harvard Universities.

The college work was given an organization that was up to date at the time. The many, mostly minor, changes made since, in that and succeeding administrations, have been designed to preserve its up-to-dateness.

As the successor to Dr. Haggerty in the deanship in the year 1909, the writer's tribute to him is that essentially every educational policy inaugurated by the Dean was considered sound, and an honest effort was made to preserve it. It is no secret among those here at that time, that the Dean had his difficulties putting his program across to the students. His successor believed that the difficulties were largely matters of approach and tried to use a different diplomacy in reaching his objectives. A despotic king beheaded his interpreters who dared to tell him his dream meant he would "see all his kindred die"; but he honored and rewarded the one who told him his dream was a token of the favor of the gods and that it meant he would "outlive all his kin." The students in those days were the despotic rulers.

At the opening of the school year, 1909-10, the classroom time periods were standardized at one hour. Previously, dating from the first organization of the work in the year 1890, the length of a class session had been forty-five minutes except, possibly, in some of the summer sessions.

It is interesting to note the other alterations and sometimes the confusion and the added detail implied in such a simple thing as a change in the length of class sessions. Colleges operating on the three-term yearly basis had, very generally, the one-hour class session, and required 180 term hours for graduation. The mathematical equivalent with sessions forty-five minutes was 240 term hours. This had been the quantitative requirement in Wesleyan College. In cases of students who did any part of their college work before this change was made and any part after it was made, the earlier credits had to be reduced

numerically by one-fourth. It was simple in theory, but interruptions in the regularity of a student's college attendance, the consequent delay in his graduation, and other uses made of college credentials, continue even yet to compel occasional attention to this change in the organization of the college work.

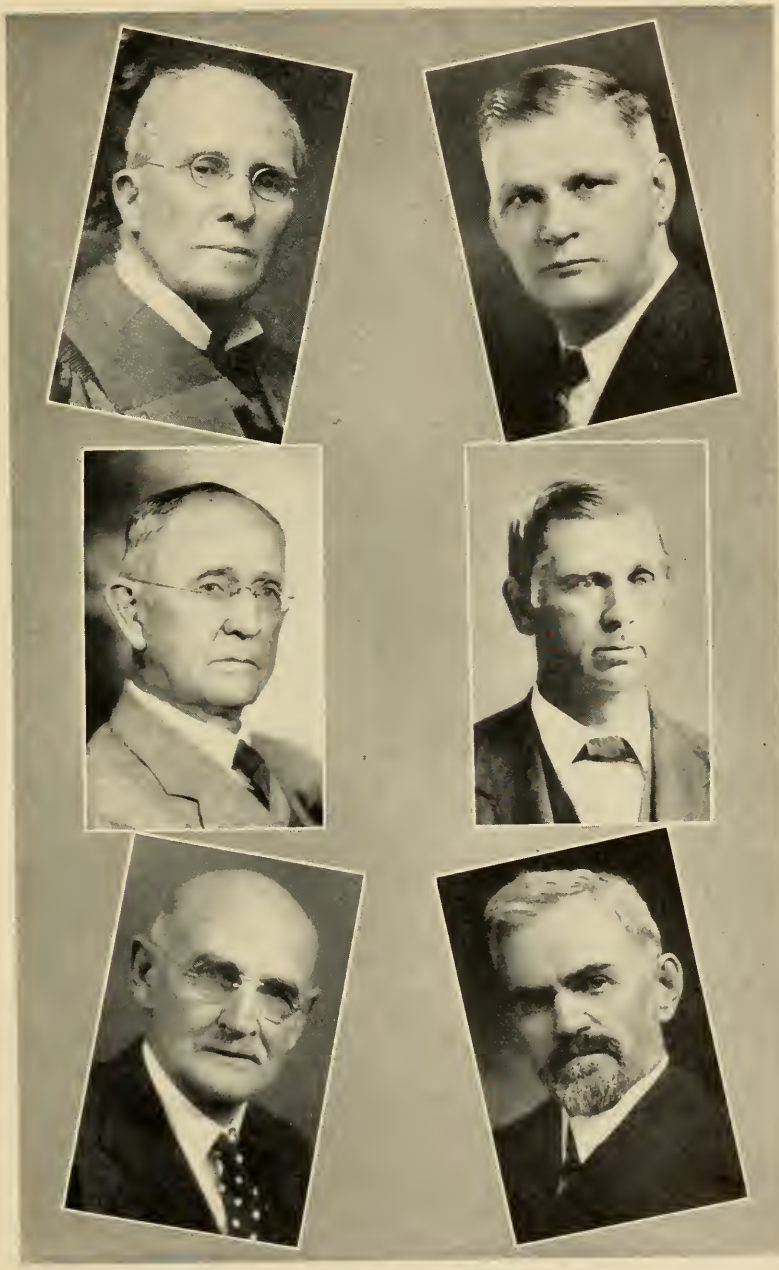
The later change, which will be noted in speaking of the next administration, from the school year of three terms to the year consisting of two semesters, was not less thoroughgoing. But the difficulties attendant upon its application were less. This change necessitated a corresponding change in the form of the record which one could not easily overlook.

In June, 1908, President Doney asked for an appraisal of the College's assets in grounds, buildings, and equipment. The committee of the Board of Trustees appointed to this work reported as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Grounds (43 acres) | $65,000.00 |
| College Hall | 80,000.00 |
| Music Hall | 6,000.00 |
| Dormitory | 20,000.00 |
| Heating Plant | 10,000.00 |
| President's House | 2,500.00 |
| Total | $183,500.00 |

There was some endowment and possibly other items which increased the total assets to something like $250,000. A story runs to the effect that the President made use of this valuation in trying to interest a certain philanthropic foundation in the College. On the receipt of his appeal the foundation is said to have found in its files earlier correspondence in which President Wier, with a stroke of his pen and with his characteristic generous-mindedness, had named the assets of the school as around a million dollars. The foundation discovered

# PRESIDENTS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Top: (left) Henry C. McWhorter, 1897-1913, (right) Clyde O. Law, 1933-; Center: (left) Samuel V. Woods, 1926-1928, (right) Samuel Woods, 1887-1897; Bottom: (left) John Raine, 1928-1933, (right) Charles W. Lynch, 1913-1926

the discrepancy and naturally wished to know the cause of so great a depreciation in values.

In the year 1915, at the end of President Doney's administration, the auditing committee made a somewhat more comprehensive report which may be summarized in integral thousands as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Buildings, Grounds, and Equipment | $271,000.00 |
| Current Expense and Debt Pledges | 50,000.00 |
| Endowment: Bonds, stocks, notes, pledges, cash, and real estate | 123,000.00 |
| Total | $444,000.00 |
| Liabilities: Bonded Debt, Notes, and Accounts payable | 69,000.00 |
| EXCESS ASSETS OVER LIABILITIES | $375,000.00 |

President Doney, at the commencement season of 1913, asked of the Board of Trustees leave of absence for one year, which time he wished to spend traveling and studying, mainly in Europe. He continued with the work of the College until after the session of the Annual Conference the following autumn. He then took his leave, and, accompanied by his family, traveled and remained abroad until the month of August, 1914. The Board designated the writer of these annals to administer the work of the College in the absence of the President.

The Board of Trustees passed an order in June, 1914, authorizing the President of the College to organize the instructional work of the College on the semester basis; but this order appears not to have been put into effect before the following administration.

Likewise, in June, 1915, the Board created the Department of Bible and Philosophy. This was organized and inaugurated by the incoming administration.

With characteristic efficiency President Doney resumed the responsibilities of the presidency after his return from Europe in the late summer or early autumn of 1914. His last year on the campus was not marked by any one outstanding accomplishment for which alone it should be known and remembered. Certain minor improvements of the buildings and grounds were made. In unnumbered ways the growth of the College in size, character, and wholesome traditions was the object of his fostering care. Fittingly, the last college class to receive diplomas of graduation from his hand was larger by nearly fifty per cent (20 vs. 14) than any former college class graduated. A period of numerical expansion had begun which, aside from temporary interruptions due to specific causes, has not yet ended.

One of the good things with which this administration should be credited, but which was overlooked in its chronological order, was the introduction of the printing press to facilitate college administration and to secure economy. The press has been used to print small bulletins, announcements, programs, stationery, et cetera. The President had some knowledge of printing presses and how to use them. This qualified him to supervise the use of the press. He generally could contact a young printer who wished to go to college, but who must earn a considerable part of his college expense. Printer and College were mutually beneficial.

Far away, in the winter and spring of 1914-15, another institution was pressing a quiet search for a president. Perhaps it was fortuitous and perhaps it was not, that an official representative of that institution dropped into Buckhannon, unobserved but observing. After conferring with the President he went away. Then the President, after observing the respectful formalities of severing his connection with this College, went away to add nine-

teen more years of successful administrative service to the record of eight established here. Busy, but in quiet retirement from his administrative labors, at his home in Columbus, he reads, writes, and enjoys the friendships he has made through the years.

### ONE THAT GOT AWAY

President Doney's resignation having been tendered some weeks before the commencement season, the Board of Trustees had made use of the time to make a survey of prospects through a committee appointed to make a recommendation for the presidency. The Board completed its business, incident to the closing of the school year on June 14, and set the time, 9:00 A. M., June 15, to receive the report of the special committee on the presidency.

The Board's choice was Dr. Frank McDaniel who was at the time Headmaster of Pennington Seminary at Pennington, New Jersey. The president-elect journeyed to Buckhannon to look the field over. He conveyed the impression of being on easy social relations with presidents and senators of the United States, and offered some suggestions for internal rearrangements and improvements of the presidential residence on the campus to make it suitable for entertaining his friends whose acquaintance with the school might prove a strong asset. He asked for a little further time for deliberation before giving his answer to the Board that had elected him, and went away to think it over or to employ the bartering value of the proposition where he remained six years longer. We thought we had caught a whale. Perhaps we had, but with a pin-hook or a stale line or an unproven rod or a defective reel.

The writer had gone to the state of Michigan for a period of relaxation. After about three days he received

a message from a member of the Executive Committee conveying the information that the president-elect had declined, and asking him to return at once to look after the interests of the College.

## *10*

# Administration of President Wallace Bruce Fleming 1915-1922

WITH a suggestion of the spirit of the good woman who heard her pastor speak so often in laudatory terms of the city of Boston, and prayed that in case her life had not been pure enough for entrance into the New Jerusalem she might be permitted to dwell forever in Boston; our Board of Trustees may seem to have resolved on at least trying to get a man from New Jersey.

President-elect McDaniel's telegram declining the presidency bears the date of June 29, 1915. On receiving the message President C. W. Lynch of the Board of Trustees immediately took action looking toward filling the vacancy at an early date. A committee was appointed to make further recommendation to the Board. Dr. H. D. Clark was the secretary and made the reports of the committee on presidency at the meeting on June 15 and again at the next meeting on August 12, 1915. Whether the other members of the committee were the same in both cases does not seem to be disclosed in the record.

The committee report mentioned only one man—Dr. Wallace B. Fleming of Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, New Jersey. One other nomination was made from the floor. The session was a brief one. It convened at 3:00 P. M., and all business having been transacted, including the election of President Fleming, the Board adjourned at 5:10 P. M. The singleness of mind and purpose that characterized the meeting for the

election of a president appears now like an augury of the harmonious cooperation, without noteworthy exception, of the various agencies—students, faculty, trustees, and public—that contributed to the further growth and prosperity of the College during this administration.

Reference has already been made to two uncompleted items carried over from the former administration. One of these, the organization of the department of Bible and Philosophy, was put into effect in the school year 1915-1916. The other, the organization of the work of the College on the semester basis, was completed and the plan in force during the year 1916-1917.

The growth in attendance and in the size of graduating classes continued without serious interruption except for the two years most affected by the entry of our country into the World War. The numbers of graduates for the seven classes of this administration, 1916-1922, are 25, 37, 26, 28, 44, 39, and 46. The largest college class previously graduated had twenty members.

The records of the session of the Board of Trustees for June, 1916, mention the equipment for a department of Domestic Science. Mrs. A. J. Clark, Mrs. Nancy Haymond, Mrs. Sarah C. Laing, Miss Hettie List, Mrs. Frank Maxwell, and Mrs. William Post are named in the minutes as providing the funds for the purchase of the equipment. The course of study in this new department was first published in the catalog announcements for the college year 1917-1918. The continuing vigorous condition of the work in this field attests the wisdom of organizing it.

The foregoing paragraphs should convey, among other things, the idea that vitality, not dormant, but active and growing, continued to characterize the College as it passed from one administration to the next.

We are now venturing the judgment that, while the educational aspects of the College were not neglected, the promotion of its material interests is the accomplishment of this administration for which it is and will be most favorably remembered.

At the end of the first year of his administration President Fleming greeted the Board of Trustees with a fully developed plan of campaign to add to the resources of the College, within the next two years, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars. His own quiet faith in his proposition enlisted the interest and cooperation of the members of the Board of Trustees. Their response must have inspired in him even greater assurance, for the two-year period was somehow shortened to one.

The work of the financial campaign was pursued with energy throughout the next twelve months. The cooperation of a finance agency of the church was enlisted in the cause. Money and pledges strengthened the hope of success. On the morning of the last day of the campaign, June 6, 1917, a bulletin in the corridor of College Hall announced the total sum of money and pledges as $448,000. At 10:00 A. M. accessions had increased the total to $458,000. At noon it was $461,000, and by early evening the total of $469,000 had been reached. Then, in a mass meeting of the citizens of the town, held in the courthouse, the remaining $31,000 was pledged.

The Board of Trustees assembled in College Hall at 11:15 P. M. and waited while a committee of their members, appointed to canvass the results of the campaign, completed their work and made the following report:

We, your committee appointed to canvass the returns of the endowment campaign, beg leave to report that we have checked the pledges and subscriptions, and that the result of the campaign to raise a half-million dollars on or before the sixth day of June, 1917 at midnight, for this College is, that the full sum of five-hundred-thousand dollars

($500,000) was received in cash and legally valid pledges on or before June 6, 1917, at midnight.

JOHN RAINE
S. K. ARBUTHNOT
P. J. BERRY
C. D. HOWARD
W. W. HUGHES
*Committee*

June 6, 1917, 11:25 P. M.

It is possible that the College did not benefit from this successful campaign in as full a measure as it would have under normal conditions. Our country had just recently entered the World War. Speculation in business was rife. Fortunes were made or lost overnight. As a result of it all, the shrinkage in the payment of pledges, a measure of which is always expected, may have been greater than anticipated. But, in spite of any shrinkage, the successful campaign was a quickening force in the life of the College, energizing and stimulating every phase of college activity.

The Student Army Training Corps as an incident in this administration is mentioned elsewhere in connection with the story of the two buildings, Gymnasium and Music Hall, employed as barracks and hospital for the corps. Conditions were not ideal for doing the best of college work among the men of the corps, but so far as we could judge they were greatly benefited for the realm of military service by the training they received. Without this organization of nearly two hundred students, the attendance at the College would have been greatly reduced with a corresponding reduction in the College's income from tuition. It was financially a critical period in the life of the College and the support given us by the Government in return for the service rendered to the young men in training for military service saved us from incurring deficits demoralizing in their magnitude.

The duration of this enterprise was about two months, beginning about October 1 and ending about December 1. The Armistice of November 11 took some of the spirit out of the organization, but under military discipline the morale was respectable to the time when the corps was disbanded and the young men were discharged from the service.

The war safely over, the President sought another financial proposition to engage his interest and the interest of the Board of Trustees and other friends of the College. The General Education Board of New York agreed to grant to the College the sum of $125,000 on condition that an additional sum of $375,000 be raised by the friends of the school. The plan, as the writer recalls it, permitted us to draw upon the General Board from time to time for one-third as much as we had actually collected since the last previous draft. They gave to us in proportion as we made our collections and certified the amounts to them. With the betting odds three to one against us, we made slow headway. The Board was kind, and, for reasons that appeared good, granted us extensions of the time over a period of nearly ten years. In this way the major part of the offer was secured. Chief among the reasons for the extensions of the time were the interruptions due to the frequent changes in administrations in the College between 1919 and 1929.

Under the leadership of Judge Samuel Woods the Board of Trustees in the year 1888 had organized themselves into a corporation to facilitate the transaction of the legal and official business of the West Virginia Conference Seminary. In the year 1919, for reasons not entirely clear to the writer, but which he accepts as sound and good because of his confidence in the judgments of the men who recommended it, the Board deemed it wise to go through a kindred formality again.

Their reasons, so far as stated, are embraced in the following paragraph based upon a discussion in the Board, of a report made by a committee appointed to study the problem, and consisting of W. W. Hughes, Samuel V. Woods, and U. G. Young:

> Whereas in the opinion of this Board, after a full discussion of the matter, the property of this College can be handled with greater security and its business transacted with greater facility by incorporating the same, and whereas, Chapter 37 of the Acts of the regular session of the Legislature of 1919 provided convenient means not only for the incorporation of such institutions as this, but means by which the West Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church may through the appointment of trustees maintain control of and direct the policy of this College. . . .

Anyone interested in greater detail on this subject than the broad purpose stated above will find it a matter of record in the opening pages of the current book of minutes of the sessions of the Board of Trustees. The work of incorporating the College was completed and made a matter of record at the June, 1920 session of the Board.

The one building enterprise of major interest consummated in this administration was the extension and enlargement of the gymnasium room for drills, exercises, and games. The rear wall was removed and rebuilt on a line about double its original distance from the main entrance into the room. Coincidentally, the lateral walls, floor, and roof were extended and integrated with the new rear wall. It should be obvious to the reader that the alteration here described, practically doubled the floor space of the room.

The fact that the construction of the two parts of the room was separated by about eight years does not obtrude itself upon your attention. This is the evidence that the new construction was well done. This construction was begun in the summer of 1920 and was completed in the autumn or early winter following.

When a tree has added to its substance a new annual growth, it gives opportunity for the new wood to become conditioned, hardened, and united with the old before making another advance. The wise caretaker is not alarmed when growth waits upon these indurating processes. He has given it a fertile soil for its growth; he now protects it against disease and injury. These things bespeak the rhythm, universal in nature.

A college president, when he has completed a campaign for endowment funds, or made other expansion of the material assets of his college, then measurably changes his occupation to one of quiet supervision and protection while the implements, forces, and energies that he has created become integrated into the life of the college. The writer wonders whether it is not at such a time as this, that the challenge of the more open road and of the more exciting scenes comes to him with peculiar force; and lo, he is gone to another field of labor.

President Fleming severed his connection with this College by resigning in the summer of 1922 and accepting a call to the presidency of Baker University, where he served fifteen years. But the tang that is distinctive of the people, mountains, forests, and air of West Virginia had gotten into his blood.

You have noticed, perhaps, that occasionally the writer nibbles a bit of this narrative for himself, and perhaps you will excuse this in him on the ground that, though identified forty years with the Seminary and the College, he is not going to burden these pages with his personality except where it seems necessary to hold the narrative together.

The suddenness with which the vacancy occurred in the year 1922, found the Board of Trustees unprepared to fill it, and they asked the writer to become acting head of the College until they could look the field over carefully before making a choice.

During the year, emphasis was placed upon coordinating the efforts of both faculty and students and directing them toward high standards of scholarship and morale. An unusually large College Class (56) was graduated at the end of the year, for which the writer should receive no special credit as leader, since its size was largely determined by the size of the freshman class four years earlier.

# 11

## Administration of President E. Guy Cutshall 1923-1925

TWO YEARS constitute a rather short period for a college administration. That is the only reason why the story of this administration will be short. The writer is now on trial. Will he be fair and just toward the leading character in this administration, or will he abuse his office as historian and say unkind things because of former official and personal relations that were unpleasant? History is more than a collection of facts, it includes causes and results, trends and forces. The historian must pass judgment; but he prostitutes the trust committed to him if he is an unjust judge. Let the reader decide.

President Cutshall's election occurred April 26, 1923. Rarely has there been a greater degree of unanimity in the Board of Trustees than on the occasion of his election, when, with five nominations before them, his election, requiring a two-thirds majority, occurred on the second ballot.

In President Cutshall's report, made to the Board of Trustees at the end of his administration, is found the following introductory statement:

> With your indulgence I shall give a condensed report of our two years of stewardship, mentioning in a cursory way what would seem to be the leading points of interest and importance.

Omitting comments and illustrations not essential to clearness of statement of "the leading points," we quote freely from this report:

There has been a general strengthening of the tone of the College.

In securing new members for the staff of the College our policy has been to obtain the services of balanced, well-trained, experienced men and women . . . mature in moral and social ideals, and Christian in spirit and practice.

Through the work of the Curriculum Committee and the Faculty in general there has been an honest effort to keep the curriculum up to date with the range of subjects adequate and subjects themselves in proper harmony with the best standards elsewhere.

The Department of Biblical Literature is stronger than that of the average college. Psychology has been made a required subject for graduation. Four hours of physical education is required of every student graduating with the A.B. or B.S. degree. For work done in the Department of Fine Arts toward credit on the A.B. degree, the option was extended from six hours to twelve as was also the option on work done in Expression. Six hours of mathematics is required of all students taking a major in chemistry or physics. Twenty-four hours of foreign language will be required for college graduation, eighteen semester hours of this requirement may be satisfied by offering three or more high school units of foreign language. Not less than two years of work in any foreign language will be accepted for entrance, or counted in the College toward graduation.

In addition to the excerpts given above, condensed statements based upon the President's report are given below by your historian as other evidences of progress and growth of the College during this administration.

Professors Wallin, Raw, Deck, and Bos are specifically named and commended for efficient work in their respective fields; Professor Hyma, for the introduction of intramural sports; and Messrs. Stoffel, Teets, and Miller, for efficiency in college finance, publicity, and directorship of athletics, respectively.

The Normal School work has been improved by transferring some of its subjects to other departments.

Courses have been given for the first time for the training of coaches.

The quality and variety of the food in Agnes Howard Hall have been improved.

Improvements have been made in the following build-

ings: College Hall, Gymnasium, Agnes Howard Hall, and Haymond Science Hall.

Collections have been made in excess of $15,000 on the Half-Million Fund, in excess of $125,000 on the Victory Fund, and approximately $19,000 on the deficit drive. A pro-rata check for $49,000 was received from the General Education Board.

The annual cost to the College of the Normal School training work was reduced by $2,900 without impairing the service.

Economy in the cost of deputation work was effected by getting students to do it gratis.

Twelve new scholarships were established in the two-year period.

Gifts of various kinds, to the sum of $48,000 were received by the College.

Marked improvement was made in the athletic program and performance.

In the material above we have tried to make an impartial statement of President Cutshall's own claims for his administration. We shall not question the validity of any of them. We shall make but one observation, namely: That, granting all these claims, he still possessed unfortunate personal qualities that are incompatible with continued success or long tenure in any position of leadership.

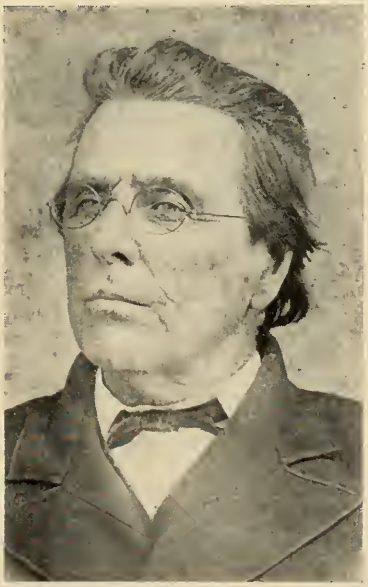
## 12

# Transition to Next Administration

WHEN President Cutshall's resignation became effective about the end of June, 1925, the writer was once more called to the acting presidency to serve, pending the election of a successor or at the pleasure of the Board. In this instance Dr. Chrisman became acting dean, leaving the acting President more freedom to consider some constructive problems of administration. Of those undertaken the one we consider the most outstanding was the effort to secure recognition for the College by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. In the pursuit of this purpose the handicaps of the College were discovered and the cooperation of the Board of Trustees was enlisted for their removal. At this stage the negotiations became the responsibility of the succeeding administration.

Another departure, not without interest, is that College fraternities in Wesleyan began officially at that time. From the standpoint of the interim administration their beginning was a mere formality. In the last session of the Board of Trustees in President Cutshall's administration the Board had removed the ban on these organizations and had indicated the procedure to be followed in their formation. The interim administration was merely carrying out what amounted, practically, to instructions from the Board of Trustees.

A novel recommendation for this College, made by the acting President, was one fixing a limitation on the size of the entering freshman class. This recommendation



Conference Seminary and One of Its Founders,
Dr. John W. Reger

had the reputation of having worked well elsewhere, but so far as we are aware, did not receive the slightest consideration here. In words and figures it was as follows:

After carefully considering the matter, I am of the opinion that to advertise a limit of, say 175 members of the freshman class for the present would have a wholesome psychological effect on prospective students, would stimulate interest in the College, and would contribute greatly toward the solution of the attendance problem.

I consider 175 the maximum number we can take care of under present conditions. The limit could be raised as improved facilities and conditions should warrant.

In taking leave of this, his final period of service in the capacity of acting President, the writer records his deep appreciation of, and his sense of gratitude for, the fine cooperation and support of the members of the staff who shared with him the responsibilities of the time.

We note, in passing, that on December 29, 1925, the Board of Trustees offered the presidency of the College to William Warren Sweet, who was at that time professor of History in DePauw University. Without any bond of sentiment impelling him toward this College and with abundant promise of a distinguished career in his chosen field, it is not surprising that he declined to accept the post with its attendant responsibilities.

## *13*

# Administration of President Homer Ethan Wark 1926-1931

IN its session of June 8, 1926, the Board of Trustees chose Dr. H. E. Wark for the presidency of the College. At the time of his election he was professor of History of Religion in Boston University. Dr. Wark assumed the responsibilities of his office soon after his election, while the summer school was in session and while the plans were in the making for the following year's work.

The first meeting of the Board of Trustees in his administration occurred on December 15, 1926. Among the important features of President Wark's report to the Board on that occasion are surveys of the financial condition of the College and the spiritual life and welfare of the students. He also introduced the unfinished matter of our relation to the North Central Association of Colleges and asked that the scope of the Board's former action relating thereto be clarified. This being done, the President, in the year 1927, presented anew the application of the College for admission. Favorable action was taken on the application and the College was admitted to the much-coveted membership in the Association. The College continued in this membership for a period of five years and was dropped early in the succeeding administration, 1932.

The story of our relation to the subject of membership in the Association is interesting and important history.

There is a popular impression that standardizing agencies are, among colleges, what country clubs, lodges, luncheon clubs, et cetera are to individual men. That is, they are recreational; they are fraternal; they are social; or they merely supply the opportunity for their associated members to "strut their stuff." This popular impression is all wrong.

Standardizing agencies among educational institutions render services closely analogous to the service rendered in the commercial world by Dun and Bradstreet. The number of colleges needed to serve the people of this vast country is very great. A college official cannot spend his time finding out from original sources the exact status of every one of them. A question is to be adjudicated. The working efficiency of a college, perhaps a thousand miles away, is involved in the answer. The official takes from a shelf a report compiled by the standardizing agency of that region. He has at once the benefit of the agency's studies. Infallible? No. But the best criterion we have, and a very good working guide.

The writer, as stated elsewhere, prepared the first application for the admission of this College into a standardizing agency. He refuses to die, or at least to recognize his death as valid, before he has seen our lost membership restored.

In giving the historical data on this subject we are on ground where every step must be sure. There were those who charged that blame was placed at one point to counceal responsibility that lay at another.

President R. M. Hughes, who made the first inspection of the College in the year 1926, wrote as follows in his report to the College:

> Serious exception was taken to the athletic situation, and the college was turned down on that ground, and, I believe, on that ground only. I strongly recommend that you take up this matter very carefully, and if this one matter is straightened out and cleared up in a

satisfactory way, I feel that there is no question but what West Virginia Wesleyan will be accredited one year hence.

At this point the interim administration bequeathed the negotiations with the problems involved to the incoming administration. The College was accredited the following year, in line with the prediction of President Hughes. But we wonder whether there was a mutual understanding between the College and the Standardizing Agency with respect to the set-up that replaced free dormitory and free board for athletes. As explained to the writer, who no longer bore any responsible relation to the matter, it was a board organized to handle loans made to students, presumably open to all worthy students needing financial aid. It derived its funds from any sources willing to contribute, but chiefly from appropriations made from the receipts from athletic events.

When the treasurer of the College explained the loan plan to the writer, he replied, in substance: "If in practice it is shown that about the same per cent of athletes, as of other students, are beneficiaries of this fund, and that those, who borrow, really regard it as a loan, paying interest and principal according to stipulated conditions, it should not make any trouble for us." The writer on making several inquiries in subsequent years did not learn of a single instance in which an athletic beneficiary restored to the fund that which, by courtesy, was called a loan.

The condition described above had continued approximately five years when a new administration was inaugurated. To the writer it would seem normal for the new President, without previous experience with the problems of college administration, to assume that a condition, which had existed for a period of years, was generally known and acceptable.

In the meantime, troubles of another character had developed. Securities depreciated as the economic depres-

sion waxed sore. Income from endowment declined. Retrenchments had to be made. Salaries had to be reduced. Expenditures had to be cut to the bone. These things were done to save the College from bankruptcy pending the return of better times.

Perhaps it is the irony of fate that an administration, clean as a hound's tooth and struggling against a headache of economic ills as noted above, must be chastened for delinquencies among which the one inherited from the past and assumed to belong to an acceptable status quo, seems to the writer the most serious. When one falls into a well, every brick in the wall contributes a bruise, on the way down, and it is likely to be his misfortune to hit bottom before he can return.

We have tried, in the narrative above, to present in brief compass all the essential facts for a clear understanding of the matter under consideration, having reasons to believe that it is a matter of very great concern to the constituency of the College. An appraisal of the existing situation suggests that three aspects of the College are of outstanding importance in winning our way to recognition. These are: (1) satisfactory faculty standards, (2) acceptable athletic organization and administration, and (3) financial support sufficient in amount and equitably distributed to the various needs of the College.

Under point one, a sound college program in keeping with existing conditions is implied. In so far as the writer's information goes, the College will safely bear inspection today on points one and two. With respect to item three, the College must wait for general economic recovery, or for the success of a college financial campaign now under way. While the patient is under the knife for appendicitis it may be good economy to have tonsils and gallstones also removed. After this digression we return to the administration under consideration.

For the year 1927-28, President Wark's reports and the minutes of the Board of Trustees, besides comprehending the routine and usual items of business for the college session, include a plan for a financial campaign and the approval of a proposition to purchase the Forman property located on the south corner of Central Avenue and Florida Street.

The financial campaign was a joint effort between Wesleyan College and the Wesley Foundation of West Virginia University. The goal set for the campaign was $500,000. The net receipts from the campaign were to be apportioned, eighty per cent for Wesleyan College, and twenty per cent for Wesley Foundation.

President Wark, in his report on the results of the campaign, stated that the subscriptions fell far below what was asked and expected. But the claim is made of $200,000.00 added to the assets of the College, included in which was the sum of $44,000 added to the endowment.

The property purchased on Florida Street, and mentioned above, was to be used for a Freshman Boys' Dormitory. It was used as designed for a few years and then, for practical reasons, its use as a dormitory was discontinued. Used briefly next as a boarding hall and rooming place for students, it then became a fraternity house. The property still belongs to the College.

An item of special significance in the President's report, bearing date of June 4, 1928, was his recommendation that an extension be added to the Agnes Howard Hall. Approval was given by the Board of Trustees for this building enterprise. The construction work was pushed with energy to completion in January, 1929. It was used during the second half of the college year 1928-29.

Structurally and architecturally, the old and the new parts of the Dormitory harmonize on superficial examination. On the interior it is easy to discern that in ma-

terial and workmanship the new is quite superior to the old. Other material and information on this building as a whole will be found among the articles on the history of the buildings.

Under the title of "The Gains of Recent Years" in President Wark's report of January, 1930, we find the following survey of his administration to date:

> For the want of time I cannot adequately review the work of the College since my connection with it, but will indicate briefly the gains that have been made. First, as indicated above, our football settlement of three years ago has proved a wise one, and is to be included among our successes. Our membership in the North Central Association was secured and has been maintained. This membership has definite value now, and will have increasing value as the years go by. During this period we have acquired the Boys' Dormitory and rebuilt Agnes Howard Hall, and have made many improvements on campus, buildings and laboratories. We have raised and paid about $93,000 on endowment, and raised and paid more than $67,000 on current indebtedness. . . . Our greatest gains have been on the faculty, and in the better organization of our work, and the better academic standards now in force. Along with this, I believe we can claim a much higher morale in the student body. Taken together these facts indicate a modest but solid measure of achievement. These advances are genuine, though in no way spectacular. They represent milestones in our history. It need hardly be said that these successes have only been possible because of the service of our predecessors, and the loyal support of this Board and the faculty and the many friends of the College.

Another achievement of this administration that should be noted here was the installation of the fine pipe organ in the auditorium. This was purchased with funds given by the late Judge George Wesley Atkinson who served as a trustee of the school from 1897 to 1925. The installation was authorized by the Board, June 2, 1930, and was effected soon thereafter. The auditorium has been dedicated as a memorial to Judge Atkinson, and is known as Atkinson Chapel.

In April, 1931, the Association of University Women approved the College for recognition. "This gave to the (women) graduates of Wesleyan College all of the privileges accorded to university women."

President Wark tendered his resignation to the Board of Trustees, July 7, 1930. The Board did not accept his resignation and urged him to continue in the presidency. He remained during the following school year and resigned June, 1931.

With the first tender of his resignation he offered significant reasons for wishing to be released, which we quote:

> There are a number of reasons why I am taking this step. Chief among them is my dislike for so much business responsibility, and the necessity of engaging to so large an extent in purely financial matters. The finances of the College are a constant occasion for anxiety, and take the major part of my time and energies. The necessity of continually raising money, and not being able to engage in the real affairs of the College has become very trying to me. In addition I am intensely interested in preaching and pastoral work, and would like to engage in it again.

The writer believes that the heart of the man is revealed in the foregoing statement of reasons for his resignation. Since neither nature nor training had awakened in him any liking for financial administration and business pursuits, he could not be altogether happy in this kind of work and, not being altogether happy in his work, he could not be fully efficient in it. The sane recognition of one's own limitations is not a universal human trait. Evidence of it wins our respect.

The material aspect of the work will continue to be of prevailing importance among small colleges without financial assets adequate to make them independent. Most of them are not able to employ trained business administrators; they come higher than presidents. The man who handles the securities of one strongly endowed university is said to receive for his services double the salary paid its president. Such versatility as twin predilections covering the administration of both the fiscal and the curricular aspects of college interests is rare. Most presidents would be wise to identify themselves with the one

or the other aspect and lean upon trained and responsible lieutenants in the alternate field. Put strong emphasis upon "trained and responsible." It will cost a little more, but it will pay in the end. In the writer's nearly forty years in this institution his observation has been that the average employee sent out under the title "financial agent" has not been worth his salt. That statement is quite impersonal. It is open to any of them still living to put himself in the class above average.

The writer endorses the modest appraisal of this administration's accomplishments made by the President, himself, and given already in this article. His fair-mindedness in sharing with predecessors, trustees, faculty, and friends of the College, credit for the accomplishments of his administration is both characteristic and commendable.

## *14*

# Administration of President Roy McCuskey
# 1931-

WHEN the Trustees of the College turned their attention to the duty of electing a successor to President Wark they manifested a purpose to depart from what amounted to something like a precedent in electing to the presidency men from outside the state of West Virginia. Only one native son had been chosen in this capacity. He was a member of another conference at the time of his election and for some years had been a citizen of another state.

The committee named to make recommendations for the presidency made the following preliminary report to the Board on June 1, 1931:

> The Committee is unanimous in the belief that, at this time, the best interest of the College will be promoted by the election of a minister who is a member of the West Virginia Annual Conference.
>
> The name of no person was mentioned or considered by the Committee for the place, but it is the purpose of the Committee to have another meeting this afternoon at one-thirty o'clock. Anyone wishing to suggest a name can do so by handing it to any member of the Committee.

On hearing the foregoing report the Board requested the Committee to submit the name or names of a nominee or nominees to the Board at the afternoon meeting. In the afternoon session the Committee presented but one name, that of Dr. Roy McCuskey. He was elected by a unanimous vote of the Board. The Committee making the recommendation consisted of: Harvey W. Harmer,

Chairman, W. T. Williamson, Clyde O. Law, Claude E. Goodwin, and Denver C. Pickens.

To make an appraisal of this administration one must take into account the general economic conditions prevailing at the time it began: conditions which, with slight alterations, have continued to the present time. The stock-market nosedive of 1929 shocked us into a sudden awareness that the industrial world was collapsing all about us. In the nearly two years that had intervened following the collapse, the effects of the industrial depression, like a devastating blight, had been penetrating, deeper and deeper, into the vitals of every human enterprise.

No one knew when the end of the depressed industrial condition would come. Many, perhaps most, expected it to be quite temporary. Instead of reducing the volume of industrial output and curtailing expense, they chose, for the time being, to take temporary losses and continue operations and operating expenses at existing levels. Human hope and optimism played against time. They lost. Down to defeat with them went the economic well-being of ten thousands enterprises, and the hopes of material betterment of ten million men.

President McCuskey came into his responsibilities just about the time it was becoming baldly apparent that drastic measures for retrenchment to save the College from bankruptcy were inevitable. Salary schedules had already been approved for the year of 1931-32 before his election, hence the cut in salaries did not occur before the end of that year. The salary cuts were issued in two installments, 1932 and 1933, and amounted in the aggregate to forty per cent of their former level. These cuts applied uniformly to faculty salaries, irrespective of size. Since that time, and effective beginning in 1936, three per cent of the 1931 level was restored.

The stock-market collapse referred to above affected the securities of the College. The decline in the value of these securities was a measure of the decline in the College's income from them. On the whole their value has improved somewhat within the last few years. But security values are very delicately sensitive to fluctuating economic conditions, and any appraisal of them before stable economic conditions arrive is somewhat like a snapshot taken of lightning.

At the present time the administration is engaged in a financial campaign both to rehabilitate and to expand the material assets of the College. The goal aimed at is one million dollars. A portion of this amount is to be used to build a library, fireproof and up to date in plan and equipment. Another portion is to be used to finance improvements deemed to be needed now in the buildings and on the grounds, also to add any new equipment needed in the College. A third portion, and perhaps the largest of all, is to be added to the productive endowment, bringing it up to the million level. The success of this enterprise should give new and lively acceleration to the growth and usefulness of the College.

The writer unwittingly, in the preceding paragraph, drifted into the future. However, the future is only prognostic history. He envisions the struggles for material and functional expansion as constituting the growing pains of a healthy young institution on its way.

This administration is too near for proper perspective. Some of the handicaps under which it labored at the outset have been indicated. Its outstanding problem has been, and continues to be, the matter of financial support for an aggressive college program. This is a problem born of the time in which we live. The rugged individualistic depression under which it began has been complicated by the arrival of the new-deal recovery.

Of the remedies open to choice for these ills, the responsible leadership has prescribed a regimen of Caledonian prudence in the use of material resources. That the course chosen is, in the long run, the safest and the best, is scarcely open to question. This view is supported also by the evidence that this administrative policy is not parsimony. It is, in a larger program, a temporary phase to meet an emergency. The larger program contemplates adequate support for every department and every aspect of college activity. We predict that in the future it will be said of the present administration that it was characterized by a wise adaptation to the exigencies of its time.

## *15*

# The Faculty

A STUDY of faculty tenure reveals some interesting facts, and a trend that, to the writer, seems most wholesome, and, to the College's leaders and friends, must seem most encouraging. The trend is distinctly in the direction of greater permanence in the teaching staff.

A survey of all those employed on the staff since the organization of the school in 1890 discloses the names of but twenty-five persons who have served in a teaching capacity ten years or longer, counting to the end of the current school year. This list includes the names of two librarians.

Only seven of the twenty-five persons whose names appear in this list left the school to accept employment elsewhere. One was retired from the service of the College, having reached the age limit. One died while in the service of the College. Sixteen of the twenty-five are on the present staff, and have periods of service ranging from ten years to thirty-eight.

Of the seven who left after ten or more years of teaching to accept employment elsewhere, the periods of service in this school were, in the order of length, seventeen years, sixteen, fourteen, twelve, eleven, and ten.

The writer has taken such precautions as he finds at hand to prevent error in giving the length of service of those members of the faculty whose names will soon be presented, and whose contribution to the school in service will be briefly evaluated. He, however, recognizes the possibility of slight error in a very few cases. When de-

cisions to make changes have not been reached and successors named before the publication of the annual catalog, and, more especially, when such vacancies remain to be filled after the record of the June meeting of the Board of Trustees is made up, the exercise of diligent care is needed to avoid errors in reporting the beginning and the end of a period of service.

## DR. FRANK BUTLER TROTTER

*Vice-President*

LATIN

1890-1907

The valuable service rendered by Dr. F. B. Trotter in the early years of the school has already been presented at some length in the story of the administrations. Emphasis there was placed chiefly upon the administrative aspect of his service. He was equally efficient as a teacher. Under conditions as they were at that time, he was held in esteem by both faculty and students as the perfect teacher. The multiplicity of things known collectively today as "activities" had not begun to assume a place of importance in school life.

Students then had no higher purpose in going to college than to get their lessons from day to day, in the belief that this was preparing them for some field of useful or profitable service. It was a rare occasion when a student either absented himself from the Doctor's classes, without unavoidable reason, or reported to class without having done his best to master the assignment. The student who trusted to luck in class to get safely by some point of weakness in his preparation generally came to grief. This happened so often that it gave rise to the impression that the Doctor could tell by looking at a student just what he had failed to get in the day's assignment.

He has been a master in the matter of adaptation to his environment. It can be taken for granted, therefore, that in the day when "activities" became such a dominating influence in student life, he found the perfect answer to the place and the function of the classroom in the modern college world.

Dr. Trotter was a member of Wesleyan staff seventeen years, from 1890 to 1907.

## JESSIE TROTTER

### LATIN AND MATHEMATICS

### 1896-1912

Beginning as a student in the early years of the school, Jessie Trotter became a member of the teaching staff in 1896 and continued until 1912 — sixteen years. She gave certain courses in Latin and in Mathematics. Her work was characterized by a thoroughness strongly akin to that of her brother. Perhaps it was much the same, the chief difference deriving from the feminine atmosphere of classroom administration instead of the masculine.

Strong men today who pursued courses in her classroom speak of her work with appreciation and of her tutelage with respect.

## THOMAS W. HAUGHT

### GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY

### 1896-

The writer of this narrative began in the year 1896, and is among those with periods of service of more than ten years. He has been in the work continuously since, with the exceptions of two years, 1899-1901, when he was continuing his studies; and three years, 1905-1908, when he was administering the state school located at Keyser, West Virginia.

## W. O. MILLS

### MATHEMATICS AND SURVEYING

### 1897-1908

In the year 1897 Professor Mills was employed to teach Mathematics and Surveying. He continued on the teaching staff of the school eleven years. Prior to his coming to Wesleyan, he had for some years been associated with the Reverend U. S. Fleming in a joint leadership for the administration of the work of the West Virginia Normal and Classical Academy, commonly called the "Academy." The Academy was housed in the building that is now the College Avenue grade building and whose grounds embraced nearly all the area in that vicinity now used by the graded school and the high school.

It was about that time that the work of the Academy was discontinued and following its discontinuance, Professor Mills became identified with the Wesleyan Seminary with which he continued through the first five years of its life as a college, until 1908.

To casual observation Professor Mills seemed to, perhaps did, carry his head a little to one side. In his picture which appears in the *Murmurmontis* of 1904 in a straight front view, his right eye appears nearly its vertical dimension higher than the left, and the top of his right ear, nearly one-third the vertical dimension of the ear higher than the left. He was about of average height and a little inclined to stoutness. During the writer's acquaintance with him he wore spectacles, also a beard which he kept neatly trimmed. His face was kindly. Professor Mills had a keen sense of humor, but he was not, himself, a humorist.

Professor Mills's personality carried a fine dignity which he never laid aside. He had, however, a rare combination of personal qualities which regularly won for

him his way into close and sympathetic fellowship with his students. The students familiarly and affectionately spoke of him as "Daddy," a title that, in later years, they transferred to the next in this series.

In 1908, Professor Mills left Wesleyan College to accept a place on the staff of his Alma Mater, Otterbein College. There he died several years later.

## J. J. DECK

### GERMAN AND FRENCH

### 1901-1932

Dr. Deck was identified with the school from 1901 to 1932, except for the four-year period, 1911-1915, when he was teaching in the John Marshall High School in Richmond, Virginia. The actual number of years of his teaching in Wesleyan was twenty-seven.

His was, perhaps, the most versatile mind among all that have served the school. Several factors probably entered into the making of his remarkable versatility. Among these were: thorough scholarship, a good memory, and training in a wide variety of subjects. The last of these was, in a measure, due to a change in his objective late in his college career.

Dr. Deck's position on the faculty was originally that of teacher of Modern Languages and Greek. However, a student happening to mention in Dr. Deck's presence his difficulty with a problem in Trigonometry, related to the writer that the Doctor offered his service and with no hesitation proceeded with him through the solution. At one time it devolved upon him to teach the class in General Chemistry over a considerable period of time. This he did quite successfully.

As the years passed, Dr. Deck matured into humanly perfect adjustment with his college environment. The students liked him greatly and applied to him the title,

"Daddy," which had previously been used to betoken the same kindly feeling for Professor Mills.

In his classroom Dr. Deck would stimulate a sluggish-minded student by pounding upon his desk with clenched hand and roaring at him in almost thunderous tones. This, in time, became commonplace with each new class as they learned to take it as mostly sound and fury. A more serious episode would grow out of what some of his students thought was his habit of choosing some one of them as a sort of scapegoat for the class. The scapegoat was generally a blunderer, or one whose mental reactions were a bit slow, or, most unfortunate of all, some timid boy or girl whose mental processes were promptly frozen into inaction by any question asked him in the presence of the class. The scapegoat was used, presumably, to strike through the class a proper mental attitude toward their classroom responsibilities for the day.

Behind the little idiosyncrasies narrated above, the students saw the great-souled, kindhearted man and loved him. His retirement from active service in 1932 was an occasion of serious reflection among his many former students and his associates in the work of the College.

## GRACE M. WYMAN

*Dean of Women*

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LATIN

1906-1916

The records are not clear as to the exact date of either the beginning or the end of the period of service of the Dean of Women, Grace M. Wyman. The writer has tentatively accepted the dates 1906 and 1916. The longest other administration as dean of women does not at present exceed seven years. It follows, therefore, that, granting an error of a year against the tenure indicated, Dean

Wyman's administration has the distinction of being the longest to date.

Dean Wyman brought to the service of the College a personality enriched with fine New England culture. Cultures differ much as the climates in which they develop. They are warm, with poinsettias and mockingbirds and myrtles and palms and the brightness of the southern sun; or they are quiet, with the spruces and birches and aspens and holly and mayflowers, that, even in spring and summer, flavor the atmosphere with a foretaste of Indian Summer and Thanksgiving and Christmas; or they are cold, with the low midnight sun and the crackling frost and the reindeer and the eternal snow.

When exposed to each other these cultures have a time rate of diffusion, depending upon their previous remoteness; and in the end their alloyed product should consist of the best of each. Perhaps there is no finer tribute to the character of Dean Wyman's work than the facts, that she weathered the diffusion period of New England and semi-southern cultures, and, that, in a succession of a dozen administrations of the deanship of women, she still holds the endurance record.

Dean Wyman's relation to Wesleyan College was also that of Assistant Professor of Latin during at least a part of her administration. She was recognized as a capable and successful teacher.

## O. H. HELWIG

LATIN AND GREEK

1908-1920

The subject of this sketch pursued his collegiate and graduate studies in Ohio Wesleyan and Cornell Universities, respectively. Professor Helwig was a man of but few words beyond the minimum requirement. He

knew Greek and Latin and was a good teacher. At the time he became identified with Wesleyan College the ancient languages had already begun to decline in popularity as college subjects. He served well those who were interested in his subjects; but his temperament was not of the type to popularize his work or even to oppose its decline in popularity. Professor Helwig was fortunate in having another field in which he was much interested. When interest in Latin and Greek was no longer thought to warrant maintaining the department, he was given work in the field of Economics. His work in this field met with favor and when he resigned from his position in Wesleyan College a little later it was to accept a place on the staff of another college to teach Economics.

While Professor Helwig was a man of few words, it is remembered that those few words were always well chosen and to the point.

## C. E. WHITE

### MATHEMATICS

### 1909-1920

Professor White was trained in Vanderbilt University and in the University of Indiana. He was a fine teacher in the field of Mathematics. When that is said, about all is said; for the writer, in common with many others, was impressed with the idea that he had but one resource —Mathematics.

No one ever questioned his ability or his integrity as a teacher. In the long hard struggle to establish the work of the College on an unquestioned collegiate level, one of the barriers to be eliminated was the attitude entertained by many students that the matter of grades, good and bad, was merely a matter of whether the teacher liked or disliked the student. The writer was in a po-

sition to get the students' reactions. A hundred students have said to him, "The teacher didn't like me, and he had it in for me." Professor White reported his share of failures, yet the writer never heard one of his students challenge the justice of the grade the Professor had given him.

This silly alibi for failure in other courses was absurd, but just what it was in Professor White's personality or his handling of students that gave him immunity to this charge, the writer never discovered.

## CECELIA ALEXANDER

LIBRARIAN

1910-1928

The subject of this sketch was the first librarian, salaried and giving full time to that work. Previously, the plan with respect to the library had been that the President named some member of the teaching staff to have general supervision of the use of the library, with the title of librarian. Then one or more upper-class students, needing some financial help, would be named as assistants. The librarian, counseling with the assistants and having due regard for their classroom appointments, made out a schedule of the daily class periods during which the assistants would be present to render library service. Under these conditions the library and reading room were taken care of in a single classroom. The two parts were separated by a partition of light construction, with a door controlling the entrance to the book room. This arrangement made it possible for the students to frequent the reading room at other times during the day as well as when library service was being rendered.

President Doney believed that the use of the library should be accorded a larger place in the life of the College and to this end he proceeded to get official approval

of his plan which included the employment of a full-time librarian. To finance the salary of a trained librarian at the time, was out of the question. As the next best course to pursue, he proposed to employ a discreet, intelligent, local woman giving promise of being able to master the problems of administering a small library. Looking about for such a person he interviewed Cecelia Alexander, among those under consideration for the work, and employed her.

With improved library service and a more abundant use of the facilities of the library, it began to expand. As librarian, Cecelia Alexander was, without experience, charged with the responsibility of mastering the intricate problems of a library that had no background either of systematic organization or professional administration. When all of these facts are taken into consideration, one marvels at her success in doing the work so well. Within the past year President Doney was recalling to the writer the incidents associated with the improvement of the library facilities. Among the satisfying features of the reminiscence was the thought that he had secured the services of such a responsible and capable librarian.

For the newer generation that did not know Cecelia Alexander, we record here that her life was snuffed out in an automobile accident in the summer of 1928.

## LETA SNODGRASS

### FINE ARTS

### 1913-

The head of the department of Fine Arts is, more truly than any person already discussed in these sketches, a product of Wesleyan College. She has this distinction by reason of having earned two degrees, A. B. and M. A.,

from this College. What is more, she met some of her college-entrance requirements in the Seminary, the forerunner of the College. Aside from the accomplishments enumerated, her professional studies have been pursued under the tutelage of professional artists elsewhere.

Art was at one time regarded as the province of the elect in that realm—those having a native predilection for the use of the crayon or the brush. Moreover, it was believed that election in the realm of art was a rare and inexplicable event like the occurrence of a sport or an albino in the realm of biology. The gift of artistic skill might be bestowed upon one in a million or in a hundred thousand. Whatever the ratio, those fortunate ones born with the gift were the ones to pursue the study of art.

In our day we are beginning to analyze art into such elements as drawing, perspective, shading, and coloring; and to recognize that every educated person stands to need more or less of one or more of these elements.

The analogy with the need of one's native language is good. One needs language for the simplest business transaction, to communicate with an absent friend, to write an advertisement, a short story, a scientific treatise, or a Nobel prize-winning work of literary fiction. Not one in a million will ever attain to the last named goal, but this does not make his need any less real for language in some of the other capacities named.

How often have some of us as teachers, who were "born thirty years too soon," regretted our lack of the ability to illustrate some very simple idea on the blackboard before a class?

We congratulate Leta Snodgrass on the good work she is doing; and we hope yet to see the day when at least a modicum of art will be considered a necessary part of everyone's education.

## FRANK E. MUZZY

### Voice and Piano

### 1918-

In the year 1918, Professor Frank E. Muzzy came to Wesleyan College to give instruction in vocal music. This was the end of one era in that work and the beginning of another; but we did not recognize this fact at the time. Only once previously had an instructor continued long enough in this work to give to it real character. This had in a large measure been lost over a period of ten years during which time the work had been served by a number of itinerants who had passed on, in some instances on their own initiative, and, in some, on the initiative of the College.

Contact with Professor Muzzy's work has often suggested the parable of the builders. He exemplifies the type standing for a substantial foundation under a good superstructure. One can easily imagine him advising the student that wanted to have his course of study reduced to a few lessons: "That depends, Sir, on what you wish to become. In nature it takes a long time to make an oak tree, but only a few weeks to make a squash." It has been the writer's observation over a number of years that those students who have gone farthest in his work are the ones that appreciate him most.

## LEWIS HERBERT CHRISMAN

### English Literature

### 1919-

There were five heads of the Department of English Literature in the first sixteen years of the College. In the subsequent twenty years, there has been one. At the end of the first sixteen years the department had grown but little in strength and prestige. At the end of the sub-

sequent twenty-year period the department is strong and commands the respect of all educational agencies within the scope of the school's influence. Some of the first five heads of the department were well-trained and capable teachers; but for one or another reason they did not continue in the work long enough to develop it in strength and prestige.

The field of English Literature in Wesleyan College today exemplifies the possibilities of a department directed by a man of competent leadership and scholarly ability, who was given time to elaborate a rational program.

Doctor Chrisman is a teacher whose ability has wide recognition. His scholarship is of the productive type. The following publications are the product of his genius and industry: *John Ruskin, Preacher, and Other Essays; The English of the Pulpit; The Message of the American Pulpit; Ten-Minute Sermons;* and, with Dr. Leon C. Prince, co-editor of, *Selections from Lincoln.*

## NICHOLAS HYMA

### CHEMISTRY

### 1919-

When, at the opening of school in the autumn of 1919, the College needed a teacher of Chemistry, President Fleming, having the address of one possibility for the position, said to the writer, "Well, we'll take a chance on him, I guess, and send him a telegram." A day or two later Dr. Hyma saw Buckhannon and Wesleyan College for the first time. Dr. Hyma found the department lacking equipment and poorly organized. He didn't characterize it that way; he was too considerate. He went quietly about his work taking time to get acquainted with all its details. By the time that was accomplished he was putting so much of his personality into his work, and with such

good effect, that his classes were overflowing with students eager to pursue his courses.

Until then the work of the department was all housed in the basement rooms on the north side of the Science Hall. More room was now needed. The unused rooms on the first floor above were appropriated. New courses in Chemistry should be offered. These, in turn, required more laboratory room and storage. Basement rooms on the south side of the building and the south-side-front-corner room on the first floor were made available.

His predecessor who had been trying to do two pieces of work that were incompatible, in that they pressed for his presence in two different places at the same time, has taken great satisfaction in watching the expansion of the work in Chemistry and he hopes that Dr. Hyma has the heritage of long life and good health.

It would have been just too bad for Wesleyan College if, in 1919, the President had not taken a chance and sent a telegram.

## O. EARLE KARICKHOFF

### Economics and Sociology

### 1919-

The subject of this sketch, after graduating from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1905, continued his studies in Harvard University where he received the graduate degree, Master of Arts.

Returning to West Virginia he was identified with Salem College for some years. In the year 1919 he accepted a call to teach the subjects of Economics and Sociology in his alma mater, Wesleyan College, and is now in the twentieth year of his service in this institution.

Professor Karickhoff's courses, as outlined in the catalog and given by him to his classes, constitute a strong department of work in the fields of Economics and So-

ciology. His practice in certain courses of taking his students on a tour of the philanthropic, charitable, corrective, and penal institutions of the state is especially valuable as a laboratory and field study of the practical working of these institutions.

## R. RAY SCOTT

### Education

### 1920-1934

Dr. Scott, on leaving the service of Wesleyan College in 1934, spent the school year 1934-35 in the service of the State Department of Education, making his headquarters in Charleston, but being in the field much of the time.

In the summer of 1935 he accepted a call to the staff of the University of Hawaii in the city of Honolulu. His contract includes the summer sessions, except that each third summer is a free period on salary. The summer of 1938, during which he visited the States, was his third in the service of the University.

Dr. Scott's fourteen-year period of service in Wesleyan was one of healthy development in the Department of Education. His Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctor's degrees were earned in Hiram College, Columbia University, and Ohio State University, respectively.

## ALICE NASON ROSS

### Physical Education for Women

### 1921-

The evolution of this department is interesting; and, because it is not narrated elsewhere in this work, the writer will include it here. As early as the school year 1894-95 a teacher was employed in the Seminary and assigned to teach Elocution and Delsarte. For the bene-

fit of those needing enlightenment, Delsarte is a species of glorified physical education. You could also call it Calisthenics, if you wished, without offending refined sensibilities.

A succession of nine teachers filled in the period from 1894 to 1910. As time passed there was a departure in the direction of relatively more emphasis upon the speech aspect of the work.

In the catalog announcements of the work for the year 1910-11, the title of the work was altered to "Public Speaking," to be given by the same teacher that offered the courses in Elocution and Delsarte the previous year.

It does not appear that any one was giving physical education to the young women during the three years, 1910-1913. But the catalog announcements for the year 1913-14 advertise the work; and other records disclose that it was given during that year.

There was a succession of four teachers in this work in the eight-year period, 1913-1921. Following this period and assuming her duties in the autumn of 1921, the present incumbent took charge of the work in physical education for women. She is in her eighteenth year in the position. This case provides another illustration of the value of continuous service in any position competently filled. The writer believes that the program of physical education for women has been regularly and systematically strengthened during the past eighteen years.

## RALPH C. BROWN

### BIBLICAL LITERATURE

### 1922-

A course in New Testament history was offered in the very early years of the West Virginia Conference Seminary. Perhaps, for a time, it was required in some of the

courses of study. At that time this course was commonly given as an adjunct of the English department. The writer has the impression that such a course or such courses continued to be offered after the College organization was effected, but perhaps somewhat irregularly and unsystematically.

It seems it was not until about the year 1915 that a department was created giving to courses in Bible study recognition in the curriculum of the College. The official title of the department was, "Bible and Philosophy." The name of the department appeared in the catalog in this form during the years 1916-1923. The two fields of study included in the department were then divorced; and, appearing first in the catalog of the year 1924, the name of the department has since been "Biblical Literature."

Professor Brown was chosen in the summer or early autumn of the year 1922 to have charge of this department of the college and entered upon his duties at the opening of the school year. His training that justified his appointment had included the Liberal Arts course in this College, studies in philosophy and perhaps other courses at West Virginia University, and his studies in the School of Theology of Boston University. In his hands the department has steadily advanced in strength and prestige.

## JACOB BOS

### GERMAN AND LATIN

### 1923-

Through the years the ancient languages, Latin and Greek, in this institution, had slowly declined in their appeal as college subjects. About the year 1918 the small registration in these subjects in the College was thought to justify their discontinuance.

When a new president assumed the duties of his office in 1923 it was his wish to restore these subjects to their former place in the curriculum. All members of the faculty were in sympathy with his purpose and all were ready to believe that he knew some magic by which it could be accomplished. A department of Latin and Greek was carved out and the chief character of this sketch was employed to put it over. The writer does not mean that this was the conscious purpose of the teacher, but the expressed purpose of the president, to revitalize the department.

A little later German was transferred into this department, and, still a little later, Greek was removed. It stands now as German and Latin. We had previously witnessed the decline in relative importance, of the place held by the ancient languages among college subjects. We had seen this take place against every remedy and device that our limited ingenuity could suggest to prevent it. We reluctantly accepted the conclusion that in a College deriving its patronage from a miscellaneous constituency, the ancient languages will, in the future, be pursued by those who have a predilection for them, or by those whose purpose in life creates a consciousness of a need of them.

Personally, the writer believes that the *need* of the ancient languages is much more universal than the *consciousness* of it; and that the way, if there is a way, to bring about their return, is to awaken and stimulate that consciousness.

More space than was intended has been taken to present the situation with respect to the ancient-language aspect of this department. Dr. Bos's qualifications do not stand in need of any defense. Even so, it is timely to remind ourselves that the problem of the place of Greek and Latin is a general one, that Dr. Bos did not create

it, and that, antedating his tenure here, we had tried and failed as an institution to solve it satisfactorily.

A small registration in Latin we now regard as a normal healthy condition. On that basis and with the somewhat larger registration in German the department contributes its share of the appeal of the college for student patronage.

Dr. Bos made his preparation in New York University, Drew University, and The University of Chicago. A period of time spent in Europe a few years ago must also have enriched his preparation for his work. In the realm of productive scholarship Dr. Bos is the author of a study in the life and personality of Christ: *The Unique Aloofness of Jesus.*

## GEORGE LEASE GLAUNER

### HISTORY

### 1923-

Between the years 1904 and 1923 a succession of eight teachers served the college in the field of History. Of the total period of nineteen years, eight years constituted the tenure of one man. The other eleven years represent the sum of the periods of service of the other seven men.

It is a pleasure to note that these eight tenures, averaging less than two and one-half years in length, were followed by one, now in its sixteenth year. The satisfaction in this springs from the stability implied in the increasing numbers of such tenures, coupled with the character of the men attaining them and the character of the work in their respective fields.

Dr. Glauner pursued his studies in Otterbein College, Syracuse University, and Ohio State University, in the order named. The good work now being done in the College in the field of History is parent to the hope that the existing tenure may have a long future.

The College Gymnasium and Athletic Field

## CECIL B. ROSS

### COACH AND DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

### 1925-

Historical data on athletics and physical education prior to the year 1912-13 must be gathered from sources other than official publications and records preserved in the College. It was then that the College entered the field, employed coaches and directors, and became responsible for the payment of their salaries. Previously, such men had been employed either by the student athletic association or some privately constituted group. In either case the salaries were raised by private subscription and there was no occasion for any official College record of such transactions.

The records, in the thirteen-year period, 1912-1925, reveal these familiar names: Felton, Garlow, Stansbury, Neale, Kellison, Drumm, Higgins, Shumaker, Krushank, Kelcel Ross, and Miller. Some of these were coaches, some directors. All of them were identified with athletics, and their official salaries were paid by the College. Perhaps no one of these eleven men continued in the service of the College longer than four or five years.

Cecil B. Ross was employed as coach in the year 1925. The following year his title became, "Coach and Athletic Director." He is now serving his fourteenth year as coach and his thirteenth as athletic director according to the record.

It is the writer's belief that he has not known a more wholesome condition with respect to athletics in Wesleyan College than exists at the present time.

## MRS. RACHEL C. OGDEN

Spanish and French

1926-

The record indicates that the head of the department of Spanish and French entered the service of the College about the middle of the college year 1925-26 as Dean of Women and teacher of Spanish. She continued in this capacity until about the time of the retirement of Dr. Deck in the early thirties, when the French taught by Dr. Deck was joined with the Spanish to make the Department of Spanish and French. In this new capacity her rank is that of "Professor."

Professor Ogden's higher education was pursued in Allegheny College, West Virginia Wesleyan College, Columbia University, with an added year in the University of Paris. With the close of this school year Professor Ogden will have given fourteen and one-half years in the service of Wesleyan College.

Work of excellent character is being done in the department of Spanish and French.

## MRS. ORA DOUGLAS CURRY

Librarian

1927-

Mrs. Ora Douglas Curry had been in the library one year in the capacity of assistant, when the post of librarian was vacated by the death of Miss Cecelia Alexander in the summer of 1928.

During the next five years the post of librarian was filled by Miss Blanch C. Kerns, 1928-30, and Miss Evelyn Lazenby, 1930-33. In the meantime, Mrs. Curry was assistant.

When, in 1933, Miss Lazenby became Associate Professor of English, Mrs. Curry was considered to be the

logical choice for the vacancy in the librarianship. The choice was a result of the efficiency and skill she had developed during the six years as assistant and the professional training she had taken in library work in the meantime.

To the six years as assistant Mrs. Curry is now adding the sixth as librarian, to the great satisfaction of the patrons of the library.

## WILLIAM A. HALLAM

### MATHEMATICS

1928-

Professor Hallam had his preparation for the teaching of mathematics in Washington and Jefferson College and Johns Hopkins University.

He accepted a call to the chair of Mathematics as the successor to Professor LeTellier whose resignation became effective in June, 1928, and, therefore, is concluding the eleventh year of his connection with Wesleyan College.

The field of Mathematics in the College has been fortunate in having three good men continue their services for a longer period than ten years. These are Professors Mills, White, and Hallam. Since each of the first two served just eleven years and the third is now concluding his eleventh, here's a challenge issued to any jinx credited with haunting that numeral.

Mathematics, like ancient languages, has in recent decades been measurably victimized by certain educational theories. It is comforting, therefore, to find so many in the College pursuing the subject.

## OSCAR DOANE LAMBERT

*Dean of the College*

PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

1929-

In August, 1929, Dr. Lambert assumed his duties as Dean of the College succeeding, in that capacity, the writer of these annals who had served since June, 1909.

Dean Lambert's preparation had been made in West Virginia University, the University of Chicago, and Johns Hopkins University. He was a public school administrator of experience before coming to the responsibilities of his new position where he was favorably received, and where he has steadily grown in both strength and favor during the passing of the first decade of his service for Wesleyan College.

Besides discharging his duties as the Dean of the College, Dean Lambert offers some courses in Political Science and carries on active research into some of the problems of his field not yet fully explored. The fruits of such labors are two rather recent books of much interest: *Lambert's Pioneer Leaders of Western Virginia,* 1935; and *Presidential Politics in the United States,* (period of 1840-1844), 1936.

## JAMES EDWARD JUDSON

BIOLOGY

1929-

The development of the department of Biology began in a small way about the year 1913. We say, "in a small way," because the equipment was not made adequate to do first-class work until six years later. There followed then a period of ten years, 1919-1929, during which five teachers, with an average tenure of two years, were called to the department. All the five were well trained for

the work, and in each of the five periods of service some equipment was secured for the department. But these five tenures, each so short, could add but little to its strength and prestige.

Dr. Judson came to the department in 1929. His period of service at the end of this year will be just equal to the sum of the last five preceding. This must result, has resulted, in giving to the work of the department an individuality, a type of character, and a standing in educational circles, impossible under former conditions when teachers came and went like characters across a stage.

This chapter was begun with the purpose of making a brief discussion of the work of each former and present member of the faculty whose service in the College has continued ten years or longer. It now seems fitting to conclude it with the catalog announcements of the present members of the faculty that have been on the staff for periods shorter than ten years.

The rank and the department given are those published in the catalog of the year 1939-40. In some instances these have undergone slight changes since the teacher was first employed.

MRS. C. EDMUND NEIL, A. M.

*Dean of Women and Associate Professor of Public Speaking*

A. B., Ohio Wesleyan University; Graduate work West Virginia University, Boston University, Columbia University; One year, Ohio Wesleyan School of Oratory; A. M., West Virginia Wesleyan College.

1931-

ARTHUR ALLEN SCHOOLCRAFT, Ph. D.
*Professor of Education*

A. B., Marietta College; S. T. B., Ph. D., Boston University; Studied in Harvard University and the University of Berlin.

1932-

ROSCOE HAMILTON CARDER, A. M.
*Associate Professor of Business Administration*

A. C. A., Bowling Green Business University; A. B., Bowling Green College of Commerce; A. M., University of Kentucky.

1934-

DAVID ECHOLS REEMSNYDER, M. A.
*Assistant Professor of Physical Education*

B. S., West Virginia Wesleyan College; M. A., Ohio State University; Graduate work in the University of Illinois.

1935-

WEEMS A. SAUCIER, Ph. D.
*Professor of Education*

B. A., M. A., University of Kentucky; Ph. D., Ohio State University.

1935-

HAROLD GLENDON STEELE, M. A.
*Associate Professor of English*

B. A., Northwestern University; M. A., Ohio State University.

1935-

MARIE D. BOETTE, B. S.

*Associate Professor of Music; Instructor in Organ*

B. S. in Music, New York University; Thiel College; Ohio University; West Virginia University; Marietta College; Graduate work at Columbia University.

1936-

PHOEBE MARIE EVANS, B. S.

*Instructor in Business Administration*

B. S., West Virginia Wesleyan College.

1936-

ADDIE M. COKELEY, M. A.

*Assistant Professor of Home Economics*

B. S., West Virginia University; M. A., Columbia University; Graduate work at University of Chicago and University of Michigan.

1937-

RANDALL B. HAMRICK, Ph. D.

*Assistant Professor of Bible and Director of Personnel*

A. B., West Virginia Wesleyan College; B. D., Garrett Biblical Institute; Ph. D., Yale Divinity School.

1937-

EDGAR SORTON, B. S.

*Instructor in Music*

B. S., Massachusetts State College; Michigan State College; Institute of Musical Art.

1937-

WINNIE HATHAWAY, M. A.
*Assistant Librarian*

A. B., M. A., West Virginia Wesleyan College.
1937-

HAROLD N. AHLGREN
*Assistant Professor of Journalism and Director of Publicity*

B. S. and M. S., Northwestern University.
1938-

# 16

# The Buildings

### A GIRLS' DORMITORY — A NECESSITY

At the outset, President Hutchinson clearly saw and keenly felt the need of a dormitory for the young women in attendance at the Seminary. The town, like most others of its size at that time, did not have a municipal water supply; there was no electricity for either power or light; homes with accommodations currently modern, if any, were individually equipped with water systems; kerosene lamps for light were in general use. Along with inadequate physical equipment there was a distinct lack of wholesome school traditions without which, in the absence of a school home, the social aspects of the lives of the young women did not find in the place an atmosphere conducive to their best development.

In the sessions of the Board of Trustees at the close of the first year of the school, the president secured their approval of a program to create by suitable publicity public interest in behalf of this cause. To this end they adopted the following: "Resolved, That we deem the building of a Ladies' Hall indispensable to the highest success of the West Virginia Conference Seminary; That the President in his labors in the field be requested to present the importance of the subject publicly and privately, and in such communications as he may deem proper for publication by the press."

A year later in the session of June 14, 1892, the Board created a committee of five to promote the cause of the dormitory and to proceed with its erection when (1) the existing debt of about $20,000 had been fully provided for, and when (2) in the judgment of the committee pledges of money in sufficient amount had been received to warrant launching the enterprise.

The committee appointed to promote the erection of a dormitory consisted of President B. W. Hutchinson, Benjamin F. Martin, J. S. Withers, L. H. Jordan, and C. B. Graham. Building operations were delayed to await the liquidation of the debt which was completely provided for at the session of the conference in the autumn of 1893.

Meanwhile, President Hutchinson had prepared a plan embodying largely the plan and arrangement of one of the early dormitories of Goucher College. He submitted this to Mr. M. F. Geisey, an architect of Wheeling, who, without remuneration, generously put the plans in shape for the builders, furnished the necessary blueprints, and supervised the erection of the building. His services were his contribution to the enterprise.

With the debt of twenty thousand dollars now out of the way, the conditions stipulated for beginning the erection of the dormitory were realized through the generous bequest by the Reverend John A. Williams, of three thousand dollars given for the specific purpose of aiding in the building of a dormitory for young women. When other available resources were added to this bequest the committee proceeded to complete the foundation of the building in the autumn of 1894.

The work of construction progressed through the spring and summer of 1895. All efforts now were directed toward the goal of having the building ready for

occupancy at the opening of the school year in September. Funds for furnishing the building were inadequate. Several Epworth Leagues and a number of individuals contributed fifty dollars each toward the furnishing of rooms. Carpenters and painters were busy with the interior finishing of the building until the opening date of the school year. Under such conditions the installation of furniture and furnishings throughout the building was a matter of much labor and anxiety. Doubtless a critical observer could have discerned much evidence of haste about the place while the young women were being welcomed and assigned to their rooms. But the work was done, though ending in a breath-taking race with time; and the spirit that prevailed was one of joy in a consummation of such great promise for the school.

It is a reasonable expectation that dormitories should be self-sustaining. Perhaps this should be interpreted to include interest on bonded indebtedness, and even the retirement of bonds issued to secure funds for construction purposes. The best practice perhaps is to regard the building as a part of the operating plant of an institution and to secure it through the generosity of the friends of education. The full policy of the Board of Trustees in respect to this matter is not disclosed in the minutes of their meetings. In a session held October 30, 1894, they provided for a bond issue of $18,000. The reasons for the issue are set forth in the following preamble and resolution:

> The Board having nearly completed the foundation of the Women's Building, or Dormitory, for the use of the Conference Seminary of the West Virginia Conference and desiring to proceed at once to the erection and completion of said building according to the plans and specifications already adopted, and to suitably furnish the same for the use of said Seminary, and not having received donations and subscriptions of sufficient amounts of money to pay for the same, and this Board being of opinion that it is expedient and necessary to borrow for the purpose the sum of eighteen thousand dollars, it is,

therefore, resolved, that 180 coupon bonds of $100 each be issued by the Board, payable ten years after and from the first day of January 1895, with interest thereon at the rate of six per cent, payable annually at the Traders National Bank in the town of Buckhannon, in Upshur County, West Virginia, and, that to secure the payment of the annual interest on said bonds, and the principals thereof at maturity, a deed of trust be executed upon said tract of land conveyed by said Levi Leonard to the said Trustees named therein, by his said deed of the 29th day of August, 1887, recorded in said county.

The events of the years that followed fully justified the fine optimism of President Hutchinson and the Board of Trustees in spending money, much of which had yet to be secured, to build the dormitory. Its rooms were filled, almost from the beginning. Having a capacity to accommodate about sixty students, it was soon housing more than seventy. Some years later carpenters were called in to convert the assembly room on the fourth floor into more rooms for students; then, with a capacity to accommodate about seventy young women, at times it took care of eighty during the next few years.

Perhaps the all-time high in the number of those living in the original dormitory occurred more or less around the turn of the century, just before the State of West Virginia developed a lively consciousness of its need for more high schools. The Seminary was, among other things, a substitute for the public high school for many people who did not have such educational advantages in their own communities.

"Time makes ancient good uncouth." With the passing of the years which eventually brought an efficient domestic water supply, electricity, and natural gas to Buckhannon, the dormitory was gradually, but to a limited extent, serviced with all three of these public utilities.

Let us take a look at conditions that prevailed during the early years. A well, driven near the outside entrance

to the kitchen, provided a supply of water for use in the kitchen. Another well was located to one side of the present concrete walk leading to Meade Street and near the street outlet of the walk. This well remains still, but is now little used or not at all, and it is our guess that it was driven to supply water for making brick, mixing mortar, et cetera, when the Seminary Building was under construction.

This was a rather deep well of clear cool water and was much used for drinking purposes. Drinking glasses on the tables in the dining room were generally filled from this well, and in the evenings, just before study hours began, the young women resorted thither with pitchers of generous capacities, which they filled and carried to their rooms. Perhaps among the alumni, some hoary Jacobs, thinking back across the years, can remember helping the daughters of Laban fill their pitchers at the well.

The equipment of this well consisted of a force pump geared to a windmill which in turn was mounted upon a derrick about fifty feet in height. Under the surface of the ground a pipe led to the dormitory and from the basement upward to a water tank supported among the timbers of the attic on what was called the "fifth floor" of the building. This tank was made of heavy sheet lead and when the wind blew long enough and strong enough, barring mechanical defects, there was water in the tank. The trees on the campus round about, which had not attained greater height than ten or fifteen feet, did not embarrass the performance of the windmill. The pump was provided with a convenient valve which, at one operation, could be used to cut off the flow of water to the tank and turn it into the pitchers, drinking cups, pails, or what have you. The pump could also be operated by hand when wind power failed.

From the tank, by force of gravity, the water reached the toilets, just one on each floor. Due to the fact that the wind as a source of power was capricious and often unreliable, an outside toilet was maintained near the present driveway to the rear of the dormitory. The inside toilets were equipped with baths, the operating efficiency of which was subject to the same uncertainties described above.

There were some interesting phases of the transition to electricity for lighting. Neither electric generators for power nor the technique of current regulation and control had been brought to their present degree of efficiency. Improvements in this field were taking place so rapidly that machinery became out of date in a very brief time. The character of the service was such as to raise the suspicion that the local company furnishing the current had tried to economize in buying their equipment and had acquired some that was on its way to the junk pile. Candles and kerosene lamps were kept constantly in readiness. Interruptions to the current frequently left the rooms without adequate light for more than half the period set apart for study in the evening. But when real improvement came in, servicing the dormitory with water and electricity, the handicaps and the hardships of the past were soon forgotten.

Down to the year 1920 the dormitory had not been officially named. Once or twice in previous years the question of naming it had arisen in the sessions of the Board of Trustees, but on these occasions the Board indulged in brief general discussion of the subject and left it without action. President Hutchinson had designated it as "The Ladies' Hall," and this name had found its way into the catalogs and bulletins of the school.

In the minutes of the session of the Board of June 7, 1920, the following record appears:

The re-naming of the Ladies Hall having been discussed, it was, on motion of G. W. Atkinson, ordered that the name "Ladies' Hall" be dropped, and that henceforth it shall be known as the

AGNES HOWARD HALL

Whereupon, on motion of S. V. Woods, G. W. Atkinson was requested to prepare a fitting resolution for the re-naming of said hall.

Your historian has been unable to find the record of the foregoing resolution. If it failed to reach the record at or near the time when it was provided for, which seems likely, there is still a possibility that a copy may yet be found in the files of correspondence left by the late Mr. Atkinson who prepared the resolution, or in those left by the late Mr. C. D. Howard to whom a copy was probably sent; or it may be in the files of the College office of that approximate date.

The original cost of the dormitory was about $25,000. Mr. Howard's generosity to the College had been equal to, or perhaps in excess of that amount. There were, of course, other generous friends. The even larger gift of Mrs. Sydney Haymond had made possible the erection of the Haymond Science Hall a few years earlier, and the very princely generosity of the late Judge C. W. Lynch had sealed with success an important financial campaign at a time when its failure would have meant a major calamity to the College.

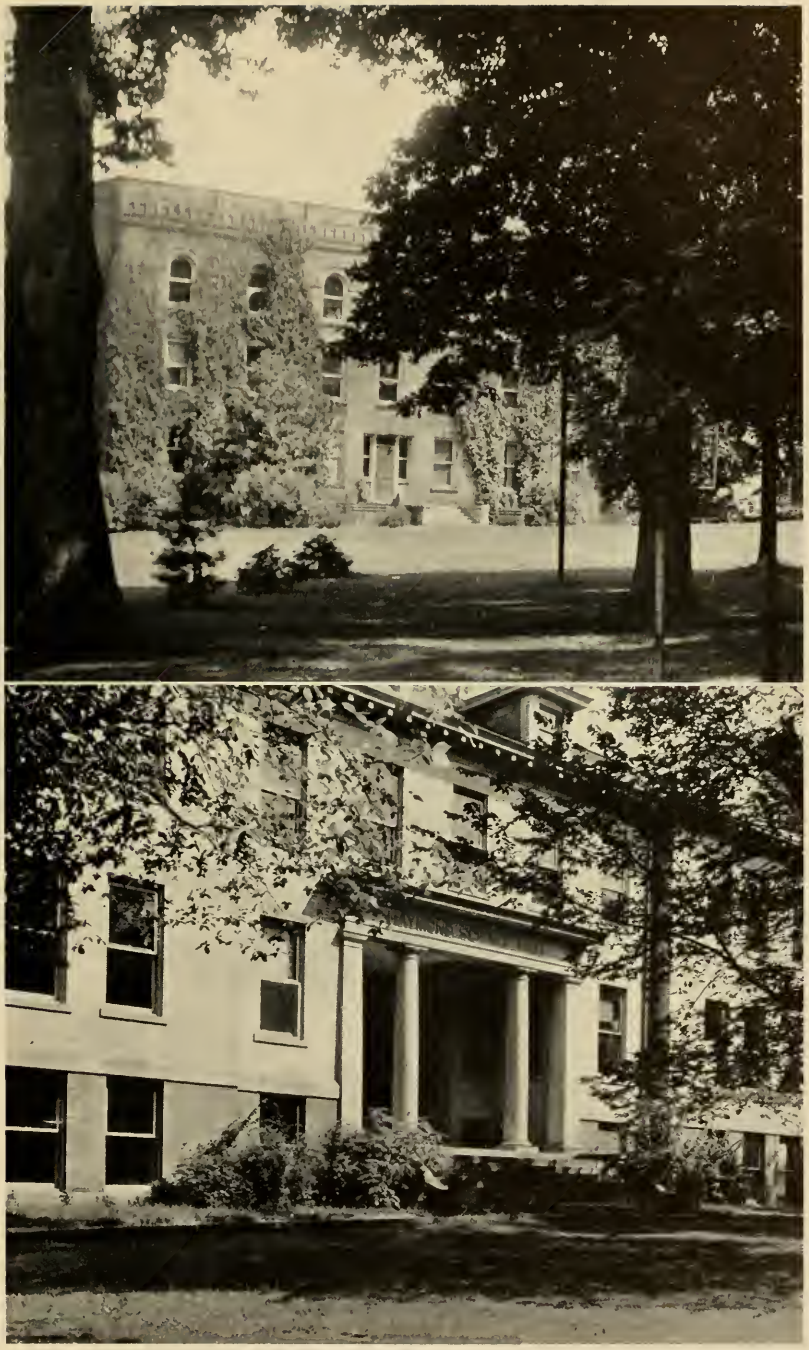
Mr. Howard's eldest daughter, Edna, had graduated from the College with the class of 1918. His second daughter, Agnes, had entered the College and was in residence at the dormitory. The suddenness of her passing from the apparent bloom of health, also the universal esteem in which she was held by reason of the rare combination of spiritual attributes that were hers, made a deep and lasting impression on all who knew her. Instinctively, one and all felt that to make the dormitory her memorial would be not only a fitting tribute to her, but would be an equally fitting recognition of the gen-

erosity of a man who literally went about seeking opportunities to convert his material prosperity into the finest fruits of the spirit.

Only financial reverses, that came with the great industrial depression of 1929, and his own illness and death a very few years later, prevented Mr. Howard from realizing his dream of taking care of the cost of building the new and modernly equipped addition to the dormitory, begun in the year 1928 and occupied early in the year 1929. The two other daughters, Helen and Elsie, attended Wesleyan College, graduating in the years 1924 and 1933, respectively, Helen from the College and Elsie from the Normal School. Mr. Howard's generous patronage in sending four children to the College was an expression of his confidence in the aims and purposes of the institution; and his unstinted financial backing of its program spoke eloquently of his deep interest in its welfare.

When growth stops, decay will soon begin. A dormitory erected in the nineties in a small town having few or no modern conveniences is soon less well-equipped than even the modest new residences. The march of progress has brought in its wake many new things, once luxuries perhaps, but now necessities. The architect, the carpenter, the electrician, the plumber, the plasterer, and the paperhanger may do much to modernize a building and keep it up to date, but there is a degree beyond which they cannot go.

The need of a dormitory with complete up-to-date appointments was keenly felt for some years before it was undertaken. The old building was, and is still, a useful building. It will remain a useful building, we believe, for many years to come; but it was failing to meet the demands for an up-to-the-minute, completely equipped dormitory.



Music Hall
Haymond Science Hall

Since a dormitory is supposed to be self-liquidating as an investment, it could be built without seriously jeopardizing the financial interests of the College. The financing of the new addition to the dormitory was accomplished in a manner somewhat similar to the method employed in the erection of the old part as explained earlier in this article.

The two major problems in the construction of the building were to make it thoroughly modern in every respect and to make it harmonize architecturally with the part already built. For the high degree of success in attaining these ends, much credit is due the architect, the late Carl Reger, an alumnus of the school and a member of the class of 1897.

### THE MUSIC HALL

The Music Hall is a modest looking building. It may not seem entitled to much elaboration here. We shall make its annals compatible with its modest appearance. Even at that, there are some things that should be said about the occasion, the structure itself, and the service it has rendered.

The urgent need for a music building can be summed up in a name (Professor Jelly). This man joined the staff as director of music in or about the year 1899. His zeal and hard work undermined his health. Broken in body, he retired at the end of eight years, to die soon after. We mean it as no reflection on any one in the line of succession in the department of music when we say that we have never known another to achieve equal success in popularizing high-class music. Others have had to strive against the competition of canned or recorded music, of the radio, and of the moving picture synchronized with music, with their strong appeal to popular interest. None of these had been perfected to the point

of attracting much popular interest at the time of the events of this narrative.

Under the spell of the inspiration of his boundless enthusiasm large choruses responded evening after evening, week after week, in the preparation for an oratorio such as Mendelssohn's "Elijah" or Haydn's "Creation." For the occasion of the rendering of such an oratorio a high-class soloist was brought from anywhere at whatever cost. As the date for such an event approached, and after training the chorus from eight to nine-thirty or ten o'clock, the Professor was known sometimes to spend most of the remaining part of the night preparing a full-page article for the local newspapers for proper advertisement. Most of the admissions were sold before the date of an event; people came from a hundred miles away; standing room was at a premium.

There would follow the same result today, given the personality and conditions; but the personality is rare and the conditions will never be the same again.

Prior to the year 1899, about five pianos had answered the need for student practice. These were distributed as follows: one in each of the two assembly rooms of the Seminary, one in each of the two literary society halls in the same building, and one in the dormitory. Music students living in town practiced at home if their parents owned pianos.

Homes near the campus were canvassed and pianos were rented for student practice throughout the school day. As this work expanded until every facility was being used to the limit, it was but natural that a solution of the problem of congestion in the department of music should be sought in the erection of a building containing studios, practice rooms, and an assembly room large enough to accommodate a chorus of a hundred voices for practice. In the year 1901 sentiment was all set for the new building and its erection was completed in 1902.

The near absence of architecture in the building, the rather common character of some of the material entering into its construction, and the very plain workmanship in evidence generally, are compromises designed to secure the greatest amount of building for a given small available sum. It should be noted that in one of its most essential features the building was not cheapened. The walls separating the practice rooms were soundproofed by making them double, leaving an air-filled space between. They are not just two plastered surfaces on the opposite sides of one set of fixed, upright timbers.

Twice in its history the use of the building has been drafted to meet other very special urgent needs. When the main building was destroyed by fire in February, 1905, classroom work was distributed among the music studios, the assembly room of Music Hall, the parlors of the dormitory, and the rooms of a vacant house belonging to the Reverend L. W. Roberts, now the home of Mr. Henry Jackson, 60 College Avenue. This program continued until late in the autumn of 1905, when the present Administration Hall was ready for occupancy.

Thirteen years later we were involved in the World War and the Government granted the College a Student Army Training Corps. The nearly two hundred students that comprised the corps were housed in the gymnasium. When the influenza broke out among the corps, the music hall was converted into a hospital. At one time approximately one half of the corps was receiving hospital care on cots distributed through the building.

Perhaps none will lament its passing when more prosperous conditions enable the College to replace it with a larger and better and architecturally more attractive building. But it can be truly said that few structures have rendered so much service on so small an investment.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

In a number of the catalogs the name of this building is given as "College Hall," but in some of the more recent ones it is referred to as the "Administration Building." Since we are unaware of any official act of the Board of Trustees or other competent authority giving it either name, we fall in line with current usage. It replaced the Seminary Building which was destroyed by fire, Saturday morning, February 4, 1905.

The earlier building harbored a hot-air heating plant in the basement. During a cold wave the temperature was running twelve to fifteen degrees below zero at night. The fireman was trying to meet the needs of the occasion, when, perhaps, either a spark from the furnace or contact of an overheated and insufficiently insulated draft pipe ignited the woodwork of the interior walls of the building.

The fire, when first discovered, was thought to be of small proportion and an effort was made to extinguish it without calling outside aid. Concealed between the opposite sides of inner walls the fire was soon found burning the woodwork to the second and third floors of the structure. The local fire department was then called. The nearest fire hydrant was that on College Avenue opposite the oak grove, near the present home of the writer. Sections of hose were coupled to reach the scene of the fire. The water was turned on, but none came through. It was reported that the hose had been stored without drying, following its use at a recent fire, and in the low temperature it was frozen so hard that the pressure of the water failed to open it. Our memory tells us that some minutes later the firemen got the water through the hose and rendered some service by keeping down the heat while all hands worked to save

such articles of furniture and equipment as could be removed to places of safety.

Student records and office furniture were saved. The small library occupied a single room about where the headquarters of the vice-president and the alumni secretary now are. The books were thrown out through the windows looking toward the dormitory and were carried and stored in a dingy place on the fifth floor of that building. A few were soon made accessible for student use, but the greater number remained in storage until they could be housed in the new building the following autumn. Some books considered useless may still be found in that old storage room.

An interesting incident of the occasion of the fire is that the large bell, that rings less frequently now, fell from the tower to the basement and sustained so little injury that its tone was not noticeably altered. Before the flames reached and destroyed the timbers supporting the bell, the basement was well filled with ash and other debris which had the effect of reducing the shock of the impact. The slight injury consists of a small crack, only a few inches in length, in the thickest part of the metal not far from the point of suspension. When the bell was cool enough to be handled it was removed and mounted on a low frame on or near the site of the present oval flower bed between the Music Hall and Administration Building. There it was used to note the passing periods until it was mounted in its present position the following autumn.

The embers of the old building had not stopped smouldering before plans were under way for the erection of a larger and better one. President Wier was out of town when the fire occurred, business having called him to Charleston. He hastened home in the spirit that the calamity of the fire must be turned into an asset by

making it the rallying point for the friends of the school to achieve larger things than had yet been done. Dr. Trotter, who had charge of the administration of the daily program, planned it so effectively that the only interruption sustained was on the day of the fire. Saturday was a school day then and Monday was the weekly holiday. Dr. Trotter, Professor Mills, and the writer, at the request of President Wier, made a rough draft of building plans to be submitted to an architect. The contract for the erection of the building was let about May 15 and the work was begun almost at once.

At this point there is some confusion in the record which we shall venture to interpret. The Board of Trustees authorized Clare Harding, the architect, to close the contract with the firm of Ellicott and Winchal, in case they qualified under the terms specified in the advertisement for bids; otherwise, he was authorized to close the contract with Castoe and Warner. The minutes of more than a year later, June 5, 1906, reveal the Board making final settlement with Withrow and Company of Charleston, who are not previously or otherwise mentioned in the record at all. We suggest the explanation that the two firms mentioned failed to qualify in the judgment of the architect and that in recess of the Board, the Executive Committee functioned to authorize the award to Withrow and Company; but the report of the Committee's transaction never reached the general record.

As to the location of the new building, the basement of the old was somewhat extended to make room for a larger foundation. There were no usable rooms in the basement of the old. The work in home economics, journalism, and the print shop occupy five rooms in the basement of the new. The present building has an auditorium with a much greater capacity, and it is on the first floor instead of the third. Taking into account the usable

rooms in the basement of the present building, it is reasonable to estimate its available floor space as approximately double that of the old.

### THE GYMNASIUM

Visualize the college plant with neither the Gymnasium nor the Science Hall on the campus, and then try to imagine with what embarrassment the responsible authorities of the College must undertake to administer a well-balanced college curriculum. With the numbers in attendance at Wesleyan today it would be an impossible undertaking. It was possible, with the small number of college students in attendance prior to the year 1912, but further growth was inhibited by the restrictive conditions. A plant with all the promise of the mighty oak tree or the stately cypress can be dwarfed into a century of life as a potted decoration by binding and pruning and starving its roots.

Associating the Gymnasium (1912) and the Haymond Science Hall (1914) with the growth of the College, it is notable that in the first ten years of the College, 1905-1914, there were seventy-three graduates. In the second ten-year period, 1915-1924, there were three hundred and seventy-three.

It is not intended in the foregoing statement to imply that these physical additions to the college plant wholly account for the growth indicated. Roots of living plants create no nourishment; they transform it and pass it along. The follow-up, equipping these and other buildings, and keeping them equipped with furniture, apparatus, library facilities, and competent teachers, was equally indispensable in promoting the growth of the College.

The Gymnasium, like the Music Hall, was not built for elegance. To appreciate the force of that statement one

has only to look at it. But while looking at it, let the observer look at the inside as well as the outside, and he will see that, in spite of its plain exterior and the evidence of much economy on the interior as well, it reveals design to build health as a part of an all-round education. In the year 1912 we were designing the coat somewhat in accordance with the supply of cloth just as in the years 1890 and 1939.

The athletic field having already been established, the Gymnasium was located with respect to easy access of each from the other. This relation has been one of great convenience in handling groups of students that must frequently go from the one to the other.

A unique service rendered by the Gymnasium is that in relation to the State high school basketball tournament. At the close of the basketball season in the year 1914, Harry Stansbury, judging by the season's records of the various high school teams in the State, thought the Wheeling and the Elkins teams were the leading two. Since they had not contested with each other in the season he invited them to play for the championship on the neutral floor of Wesleyan's Gymnasium. They played and Elkins won.

However, there were some who thought that another team, or other teams, also had records entitling them to the privilege of contesting for the championship. These protested the method of settling the question of the championship. Next season plans were matured well in advance and the invitation was extended to all high school basketball teams that wished to participate. During the next few years there was a rapid increase in the number of teams participating until it exceeded sixty and the playing had to be fast and furious to determine the championship in three days.

This situation led first to doubling the size of the

floor by doubling the length of the large room. Then the games were played two at a time with separate officials, of course, for the two games. Following this the State High School Athletic Association wisely took cognizance of those phases of the tournament intimately affecting the interests of their wards, and, by a system of sectional tournaments held prior to the State tournament, whittled down to very moderate proportions the number of games to be played in the latter. It is now run off with commendable deliberation in two days. Though the additional floor space is no longer needed for the two-games-at-a-time plan, it gives additional space which is greatly needed during the tournament for spectators, and in a hundred ways it is advantageous to have the room of larger size. A reasonable estimate of its full seating capacity, without crowding the court, is three thousand.

When we discussed the Music Hall it was convenient to refer to the use made of the Gymnasium in the year 1918 as barracks for the Students' Army Training Corps. The percentage of men in College without any discoverable intellectual interests is always distressingly large, but during the brief period of the Corps, one was in constant fear lest this type should dominate the group. There are many reasons for being glad that Armistice came as soon as it did. One of them was the voluntary withdrawal, within a short time, of students who would not have chosen to go to College except in such as a war-time emergency.

### THE HAYMOND SCIENCE HALL

Because the erection of the Haymond Science Hall and the Gymnasium occurred within a two-year period, 1912-1914, and because there began at the end of that period of physical expansion a rather phenomenal increase in the College attendance and the number of

graduates, we have credited this expansion with producing a respectable share of that growth. This idea was treated in our discussion of the Gymnasium.

The Haymond Science Hall is the gift of Mrs. Virginia Haymond who in 1912 succeeded her husband, the late Colonel Sydney Haymond, on the Board of Trustees of the College and served until the time of her death in 1917. Colonel Haymond served as trustee between 1906 and 1912.

This building was given and erected as a memorial to the life and service of Colonel Haymond. But since Mrs. Haymond's death in 1917 it has very generally been thought of as a memorial to her life and service as well. The building was practically completed and the work in the sciences was transferred to it in the early spring of 1914. Mrs. Haymond's health permitted her to report for attendance at the sessions of the Board of Trustees for a little more than two years after the completion of the building. It must have been a matter of great spiritual satisfaction for her during those two years to witness the beginnings of the fruition of her generous philanthropy. The gift for this building was sufficient to cover both the cost of the structure, and that of the cases, shelves, tables, desks, and chairs with which it was originally equipped.

Many minor alterations on the inside of the building have been made from time to time to keep it adapted to the new needs incident to the growth of the College and progress in the fields of the sciences. But every building, except, perhaps, the newest, the addition to Agnes Howard Hall, has had to undergo such alterations, and it speaks well for the design and construction of the Haymond Science Hall that these adaptations have been possible without marring the appearance of the building viewed either from without or within.

# 17

# Organizations, Letters, and Miscellaneous Data

## THE GOVERNING BOARD

The Annual Conference of the year, 1883, appointed a Committee on Centennial Celebration. The report of this committee made in one of the sessions of the same conference includes the following recommendation:

> That the erection and endowment of an institution of learning of high grade for both sexes be one of the principal objects of the thank-offerings of our people of this Conference. The location of said institution to be fixed by the Conference at a future session.

The personnel of the committee appointed to collaborate on the report, of which the above item is a part, consisted of: 1. J. A. Fullerton, 2. S. E. Jones, 3. A. J. Lyda, 4. Joseph Lee, 5. E. H. Orwen, 6. W. E. Snodgrass, 7. Samuel Steele, 8. J. W. Webb, 9. G. H. Williams.

Their report was signed by five of them—the third, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth as numbered above. This committee membership did not make of them trustees; but the report they brought in put them so nearly into the line of succession that we include their names in this record. The names of five of them, including three of those who signed the report, later appear on the list of the names of Trustees.

In the Annual Conference of the year, 1884, an organization was made for the purpose of putting into effect the recommendations for observing in some appropriate way the Centennial of the Church. A board, designated

as "The Board of Trustees of the Centennial Fund," was named to give force to the will of the Conference in this cause.

The board consisted of five members of the Conference during the conference year 1884-85. Their names are the first five appearing on the list that follows. The following year the board was enlarged to sixteen members—eight ministers and eight laymen.

In the Conference of 1886 the title of the board was changed to, "The Board of Trustees of the Centennial Fund and the Conference Seminary." The title of the board continued in this form until the Conference session of 1891 when it became, "The Board of Trustees of the West Virginia Conference Seminary."

From 1903 to 1906 the name was, "The Board of Trustees of the Wesleyan University of West Virginia." The name of the governing board since June 5, 1906, has been, "The Board of Trustees of West Virginia Wesleyan College."

Those who have served in the capacity of trustees, with the approximate dates of the beginning and the end of their respective periods of service are the following:

| NAME | TERM | |
|---|---|---|
| | *Began* | *Ended* |
| Dix, Rev. D. H. K. | 1884 | 1885 |
| Hughes, Rev. T. B. | 1884 | 1885 |
| Lyda, Rev. A. J. | 1884 | 1894 |
| President of Board | 1884 | 1887 |
| Steele, Rev. Samuel | 1884 | 1886 |
| Stewart, Rev. L. L. | 1884 | 1894 |
| Boatman, Rev. H. J. | 1885 | 1894 |
| Fullerton, Rev. J. A. | 1885 | 1898 |
| Goff, Hon. Nathan, Sr. | 1885 | 1886 |
| Jordan, Rev. L. H. | 1885 | 1899 |
| List, Mr. H. K. | 1885 | 1887 |
| Logan, Mr. Henry | 1885 | 1887 |
| Martin, Hon. Benjamin F. | 1885 | 1895 |
| McGrew, Mr. J. C. | 1885 | 1887 |
| McWhorter, Judge H. C. | 1885 | 1913 |
| President of Board | 1897 | 1913 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Orwen, Rev. E. H. | 1885 | 1891 |
| Poundstone, Capt. A. M. | 1885 | 1916 |
| Woods, Judge Samuel | 1885 | 1897 |
| President of Board | 1887 | 1897 |
| Barnes, Mr. John A., | | |
| Active | 1886 | 1931 |
| Emeritus | 1931 | 1934 |
| Reger, Rev. J. W. | 1886 | 1893 |
| Rohrbough, Rev. A. B. | 1886 | 1896 |
| White, Rev. W. R. | 1886 | 1894 |
| Bardall, Mr. J. C. | 1887 | 1915 |
| McCormick, Mr. S. P. | 1887 | 1889 |
| Wilson, Mr. Wm. A. | 1887 | 1889 |
| Brockunier, Mr. C. W. | 1890 | 1895 |
| Hutchinson, Rev. B. W., President | 1890 | 1898 |
| Withers, Hon. J. S. | 1890 | 1924 |
| Graham, Rev. C. B. | 1891 | 1911 |
| Lee, Rev. Joseph | 1893 | 1898 |
| Mick, Rev. Asbury | 1893 | 1909 |
| Reger, Dr. R. A. | 1893 | 1928 |
| Hess, Rev. J. H. | 1894 | 1899 |
| Tamblyn, Rev. S. D. | 1894 | 1900 |
| Rigg, Mr. John D. | 1895 | 1900 |
| Riker, Rev. A. B. | 1896 | 1900 |
| Atkinson, Judge G. W. | 1897 | 1925 |
| Jacobs, Judge T. P. | 1897 | 1908 |
| Boyers, Rev. S. L.—President | 1898 | 1900 |
| Denton, Rev. D. A. | 1898 | 1905 |
| Roberts, Rev. L. W. | 1898 | 1910 |
| Archibald, Mr. C. W. | 1899 | 1912 |
| Crummett, Rev. S. P. | 1899 | 1925 |
| Ash, Rev. D. L. | 1900 | 1925 |
| Cranston, Bishop Earl | 1900 | 1904 |
| Moore, Rev. A. | 1900 | 1938 |
| Wier, Rev. J. W.—President | 1900 | 1907 |
| Smith, Rev. G. D. | 1904 | 1929 |
| Walden, Bishop J. M. | 1905 | 1914 |
| Anderson, Bishop W. F. | 1906 | 1912 |
| Arbuthnot, Rev. S. K. | 1906 | 1928 |
| Compton, Rev. M. F. | 1906 | 1918 |
| Hanna, Rev. E. D. | 1906 | 1910 |
| Harmer, Hon. H. W. | | |
| Active | 1906 | 1936 |
| Emeritus | 1936 | ---- |
| Haymond, Mr. Sydney | 1906 | 1912 |
| Howard, Mr. C. D. | 1906 | 1934 |

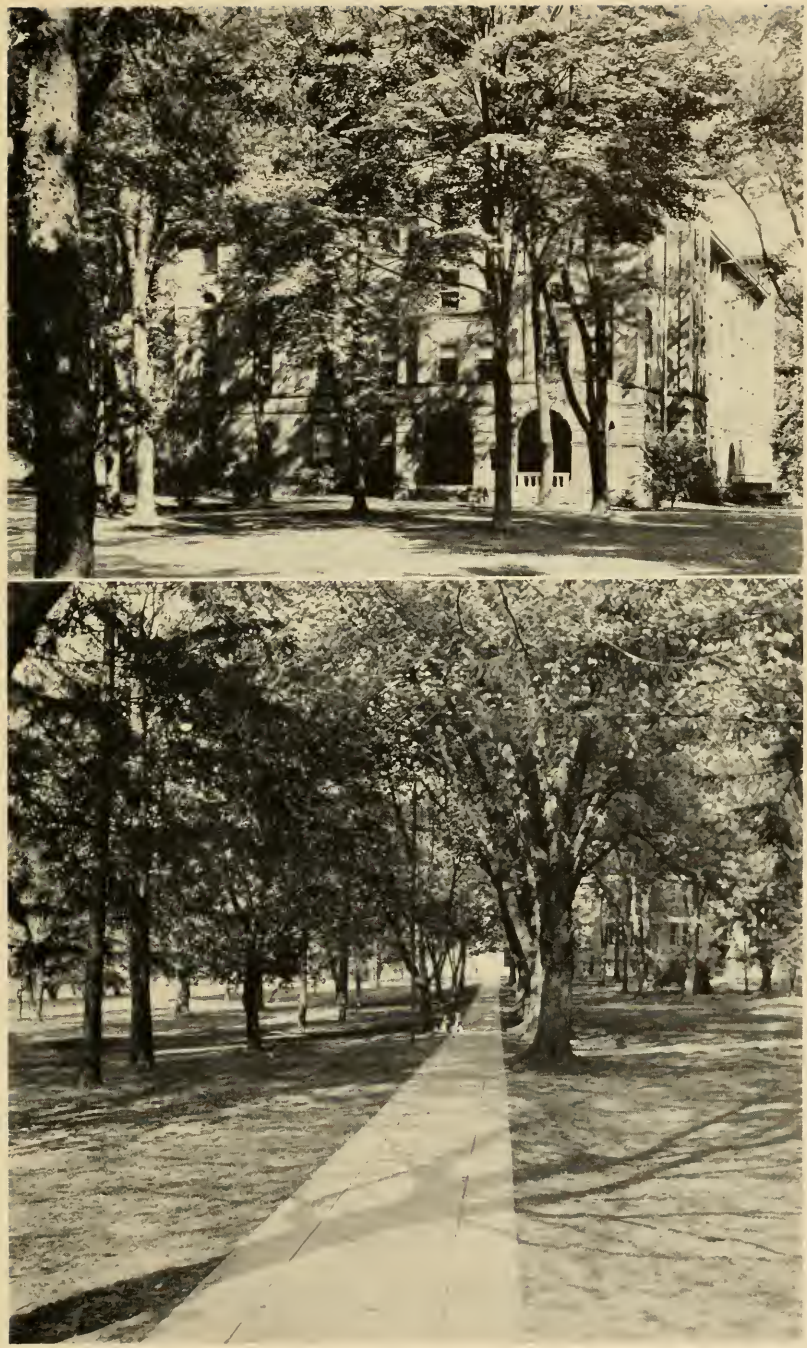
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sturgiss, Hon. George C. | 1906 | 1910 |
| Ward, Rev. R. B. | 1906 | 1910 |
| Woods, Hon. Samuel V. | 1906 | 1937 |
| President of Board | 1926 | 1928 |
| Doney, Rev. C. G.—President | 1907 | 1915 |
| Berry, Mr. P. J. | 1908 | 1929 |
| Byrer, Hon. H. H. | 1908 | 1921 |
| Clark, Mr. W. F. | 1908 | 1911 |
| Hughes, Hon. W. W. | 1908 | 1921 |
| Stone, Mr. W. E. | 1908 | 1921 |
| Thomas, Mr. Andrew | 1908 | 1931 |
| Young, Hon. U. G. | 1908 | 1937 |
| Bird, Rev. J. E. | 1909 | 1921 |
| Lynch, Judge Chas. W. | | |
| Active | 1909 | 1929 |
| President of Board | 1913 | 1926 |
| President of Board, Emeritus | 1926 | 1932 |
| Thresher, Mr. R. E. | 1909 | 1916 |
| Clark, Rev. H. D. | | |
| Active | 1910 | 1931 |
| Emeritus | 1931 | 1938 |
| Heavner, Mr. J. E. | 1910 | 1912 |
| Reed, Rev. W. D. | 1910 | 1922 |
| Waugh, Judge H. Roy | 1910 | 19-- |
| Williamson, Rev. G. R. | 1910 | 1914 |
| Mathews, Hon. W. B. | | |
| Active | 1911 | 1937 |
| Emeritus | 1937 | 19-- |
| Miller, Rev. S. J. | 1911 | 1915 |
| Ressegger, Rev. L. E. | 1911 | 1928 |
| Bond, Mr. N. U. | 1912 | 1916 |
| Clark, Mrs. A. J. | 1912 | 1919 |
| Edwards, Hon. W. S. | 1912 | 1915 |
| Hardman, Hon. O. W. O. | 1912 | 1917 |
| Haymond, Mrs. Col. Sydney | 1912 | 1917 |
| List, Miss Hettie | 1912 | 1919 |
| Williams, Mr. Howard | 1912 | 1921 |
| Engle, Rev. J. W. | | |
| Active | 1914 | 1936 |
| Emeritus | 1936 | 19-- |
| Hite, Mr. R. M. | 1914 | 1932 |
| King, Rev. Claude H. | 1914 | 1921 |
| Townsend, Rev. F. S. | 1914 | 1931 |
| Beerbower, Dr. L. G. | 1915 | 19-- |
| Fleming, Rev. W. B.—President | 1915 | 1922 |
| Wells, Rev. J. E. | 1915 | 19-- |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Hamilton, Bishop Franklin | 1916 | 1918 |
| Keener, Mr. George I. | 1916 | 1923 |
| Mower, Mr. F. E. | 1916 | 1918 |
| Raine, Mr. John | | |
| Active | 1916 | 1934 |
| Emeritus | 1934 | 19-- |
| President of Board | 1928 | 1933 |
| McWatters, Rev. Samuel T. | 1917 | 1923 |
| Post, Mrs. Wm. | 1917 | 1926 |
| McDowell, Bishop W. F. | 1918 | 1920 |
| Smith, Mr. R. A. | 1918 | 1926 |
| Goodwin, Rev. C. E. | 1919 | 1935 |
| Law, Mr. Clyde O. | 1919 | 19-- |
| President of Board | 1933 | 19-- |
| Spears, Hon. Samuel T. | 1919 | 1936 |
| McConnell, Bishop Francis | 1920 | 1928 |
| Anderson, Hon. Luther C. | 1921 | 1922 |
| McCuskey, Rev. Roy | 1921 | 19-- |
| President of College | 1931 | 19-- |
| Parriott, Mr. James | 1921 | 1925 |
| Scott, Mr. J. M. | 1921 | 1929 |
| West, Mr. Olandus | 1921 | 1933 |
| Workman, Rev. J. B. | | |
| Active | 1921 | 1938 |
| Emeritus | 1938 | 19-- |
| Anderson, Rev. C. Fred | 1922 | 1931 |
| Williamson, Mr. W. T. | 1922 | 1939 |
| Cutshall, Rev. E. Guy—President | 1923 | 1925 |
| Smith, Mr. Herbert L. | 1923 | 1927 |
| Richards, Mr. S. L. | 1924 | 1929 |
| Trainer, Mr. George H. | 1924 | 1926 |
| Backus, Rev. R. G. | 1925 | 1930 |
| Fenton, Mr. F. L. | 1925 | 1930 |
| Hughes, Judge A. G. | 1925 | 1937 |
| Newcomb, Mr. W. H. | 1925 | 1934 |
| Pickens, Rev. Denver C. | 1925 | 19-- |
| Wark, Rev. H. E.—President | 1926 | 1931 |
| Member Board | 1935 | 19-- |
| McWhorter, Judge J. C. | 1927 | 1928 |
| Moist, Hon. Ronald F. | 1927 | 19-- |
| Smith, Mr. Paul M. | 1927 | 1931 |
| Yost, Mrs. Ellis | 1927 | 19-- |
| Dils, Mr. H. H. | 1928 | 1932 |
| Hart, Rev. S. B. | 1928 | 19-- |
| Scott, Rev. J. E. | 1928 | 19-- |
| Scott, Miss Mary | 1928 | 1936 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Welsh, Bishop Herbert | 1928 | 1932 |
| Hanifan, Rev. John E. | 1929 | 19__ |
| Hymes, Hon. Myron B. | 1929 | 19__ |
| Lynch, Hon. Lawrence R. | 1929 | 19__ |
| Miles, Rev. M. C. | 1929 | 19__ |
| Stater, Rev. C. G. | 1929 | 19__ |
| Grose, Rev. L. S. | | |
| Active | 1930 | 1938 |
| Emeritus | 1938 | 19__ |
| Hudkins, Dr. O. L. | 1930 | 19__ |
| Morrison, Mr. O. J. | | |
| Active | 1930 | 1938 |
| Emeritus | 1938 | 19__ |
| Boyd, Rev. W. Sproule | 1931 | 19__ |
| Conley, Hon. Phil M. | 1931 | 19__ |
| Fletcher, Mrs. Myrtle M. | 1931 | 19__ |
| Knotts, Mr. Z. R. | 1931 | 19__ |
| Trevey, Rev. B. T. | 1931 | 19__ |
| Zumbrunnen, Rev. T. M. | 1931 | 19__ |
| Jones, Hon. E. R. | 1932 | 19__ |
| Leonard, Bishop Adna W. | 1932 | 19__ |
| Upton, Mr. A. V. | 1932 | 19__ |
| McCue, Hon. A. F. | 1933 | 19__ |
| Crickard, Mr. Mason | 1934 | 19__ |
| Hoffman, Rev. Joseph C. | 1934 | 19__ |
| Shannon, Mr. A. G. | 1934 | 19__ |
| Wolfe, Rev. John L. | 1934 | 19__ |
| Dunn, Rev. D. Ralph | 1936 | 19__ |
| Hartley, Mr. Chas. H. | 1936 | 19__ |
| Harmer, Mrs. H. W. | 1936 | 19__ |
| Patterson, Rev. W. S. | 1936 | 19__ |
| Shingleton, Mr. L. C. | 1936 | 19__ |
| Whetsell, Mr. Clay | 1936 | 19__ |
| Jones, Rev. S. C. | 1937 | 19__ |
| Cutright, Mr. Harold G. | 1938 | 19__ |
| Hawley, Mr. James M. | 1938 | 1939 |
| Shaffer, Rev. Frank L. | 1938 | 19__ |
| Fink, Rev. C. W. | 1939 | 19__ |
| Miller, Judge Lewis H. | 1939 | 19__ |

### THE COLLEGE CLUB

The earliest official reference to this organization, which the writer has found, is an order of the Board of Trustees passed in their meeting of June 17, 1909. It is an expression of the Board's appreciation of the club's



Agnes Howard Hall

Campus Walk from Atkinson Gateway

work in providing furnishings and equipment for the Dormitory. A secretarial note in the minutes states that a copy of the order was sent to Mrs. Frank Maxwell, who is referred to as the president of the Club, and who was also president during two other later periods in the active life of this very helpful organization. We apologize for associating this name with services rendered as long ago as the year 1909, and we offer in extenuation that it is given to some to bear important responsibilities ere the shadows have begun to shorten in promise of the noon-day; or the dews have vanished in response to the sun's warming rays.

Knowing of no continuous record of the work of this organization, we have made inquiries that have revealed some facts of interest. When the Agnes Howard Hall was nearly completed in the summer of 1895, some of the good women of the town got together informally to do sewing on sheets, pillow cases, dresser scarfs, et cetera, for the rooms of the new dormitory. It is the impression that between the year 1895 and 1900, a formal organization of the group was made and officers elected.

Names given to the writer, of those who belonged to this early group of workers, are the following: Mrs. Charles L. Barlow, Mrs. E. J. Reger, Mrs. Pare Boggess, Mrs. E. J. Rider, Mrs. J. H. Hanson, Mrs. Victoria Steele, and Mrs. J. W. Heavner.

No name entitled to be included in this list is intentionally omitted. It is likely, however, that our inquiry has not discovered every one of these voluntary helpers of the early days of the school.

Mrs. Charles L. Barlow is believed to have been the first president of the College Club. As an organization they expanded their program to include the raising of funds for the purchase of material which they wrought with their hands and new equipment to replace worn-out pieces, or for additions to the original equipment. The

following are some of the things these women have done, or provided: Silver for the dining room, rugs, wall paper, linen for bed rooms and dining room, china, refinished floors. In one period of ten years the club raised ten thousand dollars for such items as those mentioned above. During other years the amount raised has varied between $200 and $500. In the present financial campaign the Club has pledged one thousand dollars which will include the cost of a new grand piano for the drawing room of the dormitory.

The meetings of the Club are now held monthly in the new parlor of the Agnes Howard Hall. Besides the transaction of business, the program consists of a lecture or music, or both. Tea is served and a silver offering is taken at these meetings.

Annually, for many years, on commencement day the members of the College Club have served luncheon on the Campus to commencement visitors. The silver offerings and the commencement luncheon are, perhaps, their two most important sources of revenue. Other sources are occasional sales of some kind, the sponsoring of a good picture at the theatre, and some cash contributions.

There are no qualifications for membership in the College Club except the desire to have a part in the kind of service the Club is rendering. There is no list of enrolled members; there are no dues. The commitment of the members to the aims and purposes of the organization is the chief influence holding the Club together.

In the following list we try to give the different administrations of the work of the Club in order with the corresponding administrative heads:

Mrs. Charles L. Barlow, Mrs. J. S. Withers, Mrs. Charles A. Bailey, Mrs. Elizabeth Arnold, Mrs. F. P. Maxwell, also two later periods; Mrs. T. W. Haught, also two later periods, including the present; Mrs. G. O. Young, Mrs. H. Roy Waugh, Mrs. J. B. Hilleary.

In the writer's mind there is associated with the names of these administrative leaders, the name of the late Miss Florence Leonard, who, for a goodly number of years, served as the treasurer of the Club. She regularly attended the monthly meetings and assisted on commencement day in serving the lunch on the campus.

### ORGANIZATIONS TO PROMOTE CHRISTIAN IDEALS AND SERVICE

Perhaps the earliest organization to be listed under the caption above was a defacto ministerial association. Very soon after the organization of the work of the Seminary, President Hutchinson, from time to time, met the young men that were looking forward to the ministry as a profession. In these gatherings they discussed topics and problems related to their future work. It was also the aim of the President to help them to a proper conception of the noble and unselfish character of the calling they were electing to pursue.

This organization first found expression in the catalog of the school year 1894-95 in the following statement: "Students for the Christian ministry have formed a club for mutual improvement and instruction."

At the time when the first *Murmurmontis* was published in the year 1903, the name of the organization had become "The Epworth Ministerial Association." Of that date the Reverend L. M. Barnard was the president of the association and other members were: Arthur Ball, H. S. Bumgardner, E. M. Compton, C. E. Goodwin, T. J. Lewis, J. H. McCray, Roy McCuskey, E. B. Moore, G. W. Strothard, F. M. Thompson, C. O. Watson, J. E. Wells.

The writer has the impression that, under whatever name, the organization has continued to function with little, if any, interruption to the present time; and probably with the same broad objectives with which it began.

The *Murmurmontis* of 1903 states that the Young Women's Christian Association was "organized on November 16, 1900, by Miss Constance McCorkle, State Secretary of the Virginias. The following officers were elected: Lida Six, president; Eloise Roberts, vice-president; Bessie Cross, secretary; Stella Twyford, treasurer." There were twenty-eight charter members of the organization.

The officers for the year 1901-02 were as follows: Kittie Martin, president; Eloise Roberts, vice-president; Edna Jenkins, secretary; Stella Twyford, treasurer. For the year 1902-03 they were: Nellie Jane Albright, president; Bessie Cross, vice-president; Anna Morrison, secretary; Marie Vail, treasurer.

Of the work of this organization, the publication quoted above has the following:

> The Association, since its beginning, is educating an orphaned girl in India. A Bible-study class, consisting of four of "The King's Daughters' Circles," is held weekly. The aim of our Young Women's Christian Association cannot be better stated than in the words of the constitution: "The object of this Association shall be the development of Christian character in its members, and the prosecution of active Christian work, particularly among the young women of the institution."

Quoting again the Year Book number one:

> The Y. M. C. A. was organized in the spring of 1901. C. G. Farr was the first president and also a delegate to the Tri-State Convention held in Wilmington, Delaware. The year following, F. M. Thompson was the president and he with Mr. (J. H.) Gorby were the delegates to the Tri-State Convention held in Wheeling. The Association from its organization has progressed. It started with a charter membership of sixteen. It now has sixty. The first year it sent one delegate to the annual convention. This year it sent twenty-six. . . . Every Sunday afternoon a general students' meeting which has done much toward moulding the character of the institution is conducted under the auspices of the Y. W. and Y. M. C. A's.

The Christian organizations discussed above, or their current equivalents, have been strongly helpful influ-

ences in the life of the school throughout the years.

Certain changes in scheduled events of the school calendar having to do with religious meetings, and in types of evangelistic service, have been interesting to observe. It has also been interesting to speculate on the causes of these changes.

Beginning, perhaps with the first commencement in 1891, President Hutchinson planned what became known as the "Commencement love feast" for baccalaureate Sunday about two or three o'clock in the afternoon. It was a meeting well attended by serious and spiritually minded commencement visitors, a good percentage of the faculty, and a considerable number of students, especially upper-classmen. There were congregational singing, voluntary prayers, and the relating of religious experiences. During the first ten years, or possibly a little more, this meeting was well attended; but during the second decade of the school, in spite of well-meant efforts to keep this annual event alive, interest and attendance gradually declined to such a low level that it was deemed wise to discontinue this service as one of the commencement features.

Another feature inaugurated at the outset was the weekly Sunday afternoon general students' meeting referred to above in a quotation from the first *Murmurmontis*. It was probably twenty years or more after the opening of the school that attendance on these meetings began to show a marked decline. A survey of the situation held out the hope that to change the time of this service from three o'clock P. M. to an early evening hour would restore it to its former place of esteem with the student body. This was tried, but did not arrest the decline in interest and attendance. After a very few years of effort to restore the lost interest in this feature, it also was discontinued.

The writer is not ready to conclude that there is less spirituality than there was formerly among the groups that mainly composed the attendance at these two extinct services. He is rather of the opinion that, with changed social and socio-economic conditions, the spiritual aspects of life call for a different type of ministration.

In the early years of the school the evangelistic services, held once or more each year, were very strongly of the emotional type. It is probable that the religious background of the students was the element that determined the character of the appeal that would reach and enlist them. Today it would take a master of the fine art of persuasion to induce a student group to make a decision on the basis of emotion rather than of will and judgment. Here, also, it is the writer's conviction that a conversion which is a reasoned decision has a much better chance to become permanent and abiding than one that is the result of emotional excitement.

### THE STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

An organization of the Student Volunteer movement sponsored by President and Mrs. Wark, was founded in 1930, with Miss Laura Rymer as Chairman. The group on our campus is a part of the Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia Union and has been host a few times to the participating colleges. Present officers are:

Sherwood Keiser, president; Grace Groves, vice-president; Vida Smith, secretary; and Ross Evans, treasurer.

While the chief interest in this group is world missions, it is quite alert to all forms of Christian enterprise. Gospel team work has been encouraged and interesting programs have been carried on in surrounding churches where pastors have been willing to cooperate. One definite project which has proved quite worth while was the opening of a Church School and making the way

for other forms of religious work in a suburban territory known as the Ligget Addition. The financial assistance necessary was furnished by First Church, Buckhannon.

The first part of this article was prepared by another more conversant than the writer with very recent religious organizational work among the students of the College. The brief period of the existence of the organization came as a surprise to one with an indistinct impression that this activity had a longer past.

Delving again into old records, we found a precursor in both name and character. In the year 1910 an organization, "The Wesleyan Volunteer Band," had made sufficient achievement to be recognized in the annual catalog of the College by the following announcement:

> The Wesleyan Volunteer Band is composed of young men and women of the college who expect to become foreign missionaries. Weekly meetings are held for study and inspiration in preparation for their work.

The announcement of this student activity is found in eighteen consecutive catalogs, 1910-1927. It is omitted, so far as we have found, from the next nine, 1928-1936. There appears then in the catalog of 1937 the following:

> THE STUDENT VOLUNTEERS
>
> The Student Volunteer group is one of the most active organizations on Wesleyan's campus. This group of Christian young people work in many ways bringing together the students of Wesleyan College who are interested in promoting and living Christian lives.

Without undertaking to be historically perfect in the premises, one sees implied in the nine-year hiatus of 1928-1936 a decline of interest in this activity from, perhaps, the middle until the late twenties. The subsequent organization of the group in 1930 implies a substantial revival of interest; while its next appearance seven years later, in the catalog of 1937, implies that the original group may have had a similar previous his-

tory of a few years before it was accorded recognition in the catalog of 1910.

The names of at least three young women, who were active in this group and who went into the missionary field for a while, come now to mind. These are Sadie Rexrode, Africa (deceased); Georgia Westfall, India (Mrs. E. O. McNulty); Donna Dorsey, Japan. These are mentioned as evidence that the organization had considerable vitality. At least one foreign student to graduate from Wesleyan attributed his choice of this College to his contact with one of these workers in his homeland.

### THE CHRESTOMATHEAN AND THE EXCELSIOR LITERARY SOCIETIES

In the data secured from Dr. Hutchinson on the early organization of the Seminary he says of the literary societies:

> An important feature in the life of the Seminary during the first years was the work of the Literary Societies, which were organized soon after the opening of the first term. There were two fair sized rooms in the building which had been especially designed for literary societies, with alcove and raised platform.
>
> The faculty took the roster of students and divided it into two lists, equal in number, assigning all students to one or the other. There were practically no requests made by students for permission to change from one group to the other, and both groups at once set about organizing by adopting names, constitutions, and electing officers.
>
> These societies were the Chrestomathean and the Excelsior. There was a healthy rivalry between them from the first — a rivalry that became so keen some years later, that it was thought best to abolish the practice of holding an annual contest.
>
> The societies were highly appreciated by the students, and did good work in debate, essay, and oration. Both societies, within two or three years, had furnished and equipped their rooms with carpets, chairs, tables, pianos, et cetera, purchased with funds which they had raised for these purposes.
>
> There were no Greek-letter fraternities, and the old-fashioned literary societies were, at this period, still a prominent feature of college life. These societies continued to be popular with the students for

twenty years or more, and exerted a strong and fine influence in the school.

With respect to a relationship existing between the decadence of the literary society with voluntary membership and the organiation of Greek-letter fraternities there is, perhaps, little doubt. But, how largely the fraternity was responsible for the waning of the work of the literary society is still an open question. When the writer was a student in the West Virginia University, fraternities had been organized, and the waning of interest in the literary societies, the "Columbian" and the "Parthenon," had already set in.

At Wesleyan College, while an occasional social group had been organized clandestinely and surreptitiously, fraternities were not authorized before the year 1925. Yet, for ten years before that date, the literary societies had been but little more than names and lingering memories; they were not doing enough serious work to justify their continued existence and, for all practical purposes, they were extinct.

Very early in the history of the organized work of the school, during the period of the spirited contests mentioned by Dr. Hutchinson, some of those designated by their societies to participate in the contests would seek the services of a trained teacher to develop in them a platform presence and manner, and to coach them in delivering their messages in a forceful and convincing way. Closely following this beginning, the school added to its offerings the opportunity for students to take training in the practice and art of speaking, but without giving credit for it in the liberal arts or science courses. A little later still, the work in this field was held in such esteem that not only was credit given for it, but a stipulated amount of it was required for graduation in nearly all courses.

The classroom of the teacher in this field became the laboratory for the student's exercises in speaking. He now enjoyed the skilled service of an efficient teacher; he was also rewarded for his efforts by having his work, if good, counted among his credits toward graduation. Now it seems to the writer that there was a close correlation in time between the waning of interest in the literary societies and the waxing of interest in the work that has culminated in the department of public speaking in the College.

The writer, looking at the status of the case in this way, is of the opinion that it has been greatly improved by the change from the purely voluntary and sometimes irresponsible functioning of the student in the literary society, to a responsible relation to an orderly classroom procedure. It is not now possible for one to put his finger on the calendar at the date when these organizations passed quietly away; but it is certain that they are gone and, except for the sentiment, unlamented.

## DEANS OF WOMEN
### 1895-1939

The following are the names of those who have served in the capacity of Dean of Women, with their approximate periods of service indicated. The title given in the catalogs is as follows: Preceptress, 1895-1900; Lady Principal, 1900-1904; Preceptress, 1904-1906; Dean of Women, 1906-. Because the duties were essentially the same under whatever title, they are all listed here together.

| | |
|---|---|
| May Esther Carter | 1895-1901 |
| M. Pearl Cline | 1901 |
| Helen G. Wetmore | 1901-1903 |
| Lowa M. Dorr | 1903-1905 |
| Emma McKean | 1905-1906 |
| Grace M. Wyman | 1906-1916 |
| Mary E. Shipman | 1916-1919 |
| Edna M. Smith | 1919-1922 |
| Lillian Maloney | 1922-1924 |
| Florence W. Stemple | 1924-1926 |
| Rachel C. Ogden | 1926-1931 |
| Marie Brethorst | 1931-1932 |
| Mrs. C. Edmund Neil | 1932- |

## ATHLETICS

There are no very satisfactory records of the early athletic events and organizations of the school. During several years the major part of the school ground was reserved for a cow-pasture and the students did not challenge bossy's rights and privileges with any of their own organized activities.

The front slope of the campus between Administration Hall and College Avenue was without trees or shrubbery during the first few years. At the same time, the trees planted on the southwest corner area of the

campus were very small. The writer recalls that voluntary groups of students interested in baseball would assemble and practice on this area. The home plate, defined, perhaps, by scarifying the turf with the end of a baseball bat, was near the location of the roots, still visible, of the pine that died and was removed a few years ago. From the home plate, the pitcher's imaginary mound and second base were in the general direction of the sundial circle.

A little later, after the erection of the dormitory, a tennis court was made, two or three rods distant from that building and just to the Meade Street side of the walk leading straight away. All activities on these two areas were intramural. Of the two places, the baseball field and the tennis court, the latter had the distinction and the advantage of being somewhat more of a social center. Although the court was designed especially for the girls resident in the dormitory, the young men often found it in their convenient line of travel between their rooms and the school.

A little later still, yet prior to the time of the fire that destroyed the original building, basketball was organized. Games were played in the auditorium located on the third floor of the building. To condition it for this use, the windows and perhaps the lamps were protected with a wire covering. The writer is not certain, but has the impression that some of these games may have been played with teams from other schools.

The writer acknowledges his indebtedness to Coach Ross, H. H. Withers, and James Ellis for their fine cooperation in gathering data on the early history of athletics in Wesleyan. This material is essentially the same as that published in the *Pharos* of date November 23, 1938.

It was revealed, upon making a check-up on this material for accuracy, that three of the men listed as

players on the original football team first entered the school in the autumn of 1899. Two of the three were local men and, according to the standards of the time, might have played on the team in 1898. The third man lived a hundred miles away and probably never saw Buckhannon before he came to matriculate as a student. Of the other two, the one still living in Buckhannon is certain that he did not play on the team before he matriculated in 1899. All the members of the team, as named by Mr. Withers, were registered students in the school year 1899-1900. In every other particular the material given to the writer has stood any test of accuracy he has been able to apply to it. Mr. Withers approves the date 1899 for that history-making game. The players were as follows: Ends, O. C. Post, Charles Sanford; tackles, Frank Parrack, I. Emory Ash; guards, Archie Hall, Gilbert Friend; halfbacks, C. J. Hyer, H. White, Coach; quarterback, Horace Withers; fullback, Frank Thompson; center, unidentified, but showing a fine shock of hair in the team picture taken in the snapping-off position.

In the data supplied by Mr. Withers on this first football team and first game, it is indicated that Mr. White, the coach who played halfback on the team in the initial game, was an alumnus of West Virginia University. He is a brother of Mrs. W. S. O'Brien and of the late Dr. White who practiced medicine in Buckhannon. Having been an athlete of note in the University and having come here to begin the practice of law, it was but natural that he should be sought out and his cooperation enlisted by the young men especially interested in football. The team played its first game with a railroad-surveying corps made up largely of ex-college men and at the time pursuing their work near Buckhannon.

The team playing this first game is described as attired for the event in "odds and ends" made up mostly

of baseball suits. Dr. J. F. Williams of Clarksburg, who played on the team a few years later, is quoted to the effect that the members of the team, on which he played, purchased their own uniforms.

Athletics apparently did not have the official recognition of the school until the autumn of 1902. The September issue of the Seminary Collegiate of that year contains the following:

September the eleventh was truly a Red Letter Day at the Seminary. Athletics is a recognized part of student life.

On the above named day the President kindly extended the chapel hour to give opportunity for a meeting of the entire school with a view to perfecting the organization of an Athletic Association.

Prof. Broyles, as temporary chairman, Prof. Haught and Mr. F. M. Thompson made inspiring addresses, enthusiastically urging a permanent organization. Then followed the election of officers with these results: President, I. Emory Ash; Secretary, Miss Nellie Jane Albright; Treasurer, Professor Stathers; Board of Directors, the elective officers and Messrs. Thomas Curry, Otis Fling and S. R. Poe.

A Constitution and By-laws were read and unanimously adopted.

Later in the day a meeting of the Board of Directors was held, at which Mr. Hugh S. Byrer was appointed Manager of the football team, and other important business was transacted.

Preparations for active work along different lines are well under way.

The football team is doing daily duty under the efficient coaching of Mr. Peck of the W. V. U. Mr. Peck is working hard and thinks there is material for a good team here.

Arrangements are being made to have a baseball coach in the near future.

Tennis courts are being arranged, while basketball and other gymnastics are already in progress.

A great deal of correspondence has been done, and several match games have been conditionally arranged.

The first *Murmurmontis,* issued in the year 1903 by the junior class, contains the following set-up of the football team of 1902:

Manager, H. S. Byrer
Coaches, Peck and Kenna
Center, Ash

Left Guard, Gibson — Right Guard, Williams
Left Tackle, Hall — Right Tackle, Lewis & Lynch
Left End, Fling — Right End, A. K. Brake
Quarter Back, O. C. Post
Left Half Back, Mearns — Right Half Back, C. W. Post
Full Back, Thompson (Capt.)
Substitutes, Heavner, McCue, Gilmore, Marts.

In the annual quoted, the team named above is designated as the "Sem First" Football Team. The context clearly indicated that no recognition is given to any team of earlier date and that "First" is not used to distinguish it from the so-called "Second" team of the same season. The position taken is probably correct from the school's standpoint of the official recognition of athletics; but from the standpoint of the historian, the pioneer in any field is justly entitled to a fair measure of recognition.

Following the organization of an athletic association in September, 1902, no mention seems to have been made in the catalog of the athletic activities prior to the issue of 1905. In that issue are listed eight formal statements of eligibility requirements and prohibitions to be observed by the students who were candidates for membership on any of the athletic teams. A reading of these statements leaves one with the impression that about all of them grew out of abuses by the members of teams or complaints made by parents of students, or by friends of the school.

No write-up of the school's athletic activities appears in the catalog prior to the issue of 1908, the first year of President Doney's administration. In that issue, about one page, just preceding the statement of the rules governing athletic eligibility, is devoted to a discussion of an athletic program for the school.

Five years after the first write-up of athletics in the catalog, there appeared in the issue of 1913 the first recognition of an athletic director and coach as a member of the faculty of the school. From this point to the pres-

ent, the writer believes the major development in the realm of athletics has been toward the establishment and maintenance of a department of Physical Education for the health and well-being of all the students and with athletics as one of its several aspects.

During a period of years, nearly equal emphasis was placed upon football and baseball with possibly somewhat less emphasis on basketball. The public interest in baseball then declined, and activity in that sport declined with it. Gate receipts are rather important in keeping alive an intercollegiate sport. With the decline of interest in baseball, basketball and tennis advanced perhaps to second and third places respectively on the sport calendar.

No attempt is made in this narrative to follow the fortunes of the athletic teams through the years. Wesleyan's teams have, perhaps, had their share of successes in the field of intercollegiate sports. It is wholesome that there is so little evidence now of the once prevalent spirit that the long end of the score is of greater consequence than integrity and fair dealing. An honest and capable coach, surviving a few years that are lean as measured by the scoreboard, is a part of the same picture.

A suitable aim, it seems to the writer, is a physical education program that reaches and benefits, as nearly as possible, all the students of the college; and also the best possible athletic teams that can be developed from the normal personnel of the student body.

## ENDOWMENT

From the beginning of the active life of the school, the building up of an endowment that would materially supplement the income from tuitions and fees has been the dream of its friends and the conscious aim of its leaders.

Campus View from Entrance to Agnes Howard Hall

Elsewhere in this narrative is found an account of the first large-scale campaign for endowment funds—that of the year 1916-17 for the half-million fund. Reference has also been made to the campaign now under way to add one million to the resources of the College in endowment and other assets.

Figures gathered from the records, with the cooperation of Mr. A. L. Aylesworth, the Treasurer of the College, reveal the appraised value of the endowment at irregular intervals from 1903 to 1938. These in thousands of dollars are as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1903 | $ 45,000 |
| 1905 | 60,000 |
| 1915 | 123,000 |
| 1922 | 517,000 |
| 1925 | 569,000 |
| 1926 | 627,000 |
| 1929 | 697,000 |
| 1938 | 532,000 |

The decline within the last interval is due to the inevitable depreciation of values during the industrial depression prevailing more or less throughout this period. In all instances given above the productive endowment is much less than the total.

We anticipate that the addition of the major part of a million dollars from the receipts of the present campaign, to the existing productive endowment, will inaugurate a new era of numerical growth and material development in the College.

## THE COLLEGE PAPER

## SEMINARY COLLEGIATE, 1900-1904

## PHAROS, 1904-

In the early nineties President Hutchinson published from time to time a small news bulletin. News of interest, such as registration figures, important occasions of the school year, lectures and entertainments, recognition of contributions and other gratuities, and suggestions on the further needs of the Seminary, appeared in the pages of this bulletin. This bulletin was probably distributed by inclosing it with the letters going out from his office. The writer knows of no copy of these early bulletins now in existence. A short historical sketch found in the first *Murmurmontis* (1904), gives the name of this early publication as *The Seminary Herald* and states that it was issued in the years 1892, 1893, and 1894. From this source we learn also that students W. H. Franklin and C. H. King, about January or February, 1900, initiated the movement resulting in the publication of the *Seminary Collegiate.* It is not stated there that these men became the first managing editors of this publication, but the implication is that they did. The first is Professor of English now in Marshall College. The second is in the ministry and a member of the Genesee Conference.

The writer has yet a few copies of the student publication, *The Seminary Collegiate,* of the school year 1902-1903. They are numbered, "Volume IV." Counting back, it would appear that the publication of volume one was begun in the school year 1899-1900. In the year 1902-03 the paper was of small magazine form and was published monthly, beginning in September and ending in June, there being ten issues in the year.

The managing editors, for the year 1901-02, were George C. Kellar and Walter Barnes. The first is today a citizen, and former mayor, of the city of Flint, Michigan. The second is Professor of English in New York University.

For the year 1902-03 the managing editors were George C. Kellar and I. Emory Ash. Dr. Ash is Professor of Education in Ohio University at Athens, Ohio. These managing editors continued without change through the school year 1903-04.

C. E. Goodwin and J. F. Throckmorton were the managing editors during the year 1904-05. The first was the late Dr. Goodwin, member of the West Virginia Conference. The second is an attorney, practicing in the city of Parkersburg. These managing editors had charge of the paper during the following year also.

The writer has the impression that the managing editors of that time had some sort of proprietorship in the paper. The first organization was probably financed by the managing editor. When he completed his residence in the school, or for other reason wished to relinquish his editorship, he transferred it to some one else for a consideration. This would account for the tenure of the position running through two or possibly three years.

It was in the year 1904-05 that the change of name occurred. The school had become a college under the crushing name of "Wesleyan University of West Virginia." The former name of the publication, *Seminary Collegiate,* suggestive of our aspirations to "go collegiate," was outmoded. The end had been attained.

The minutes of the faculty for September 16, 1904, bear the record that Mr. Throckmorton appeared before that body and, having presented three names that had been suggested for the paper, asked the advice of the faculty in making a selection. The three names suggested are not recorded.

The faculty appointed a committee to choose a name for the paper. This committee consisted of Miss Jessie Trotter from the faculty, the two managing editors, Messrs. Throckmorton and Goodwin, and the writer of this narrative. In respect to this matter the minutes of the next meeting of the faculty say simply, "The name, PHAROS, was reported chosen for the school paper."

The writer does not know of any complete file of the *Seminary Collegiate* and the *Pharos*. He has in his own possession sixteen numbers from the years 1902-06. These he expects to offer to the College Library when more generous library quarters make it possible to take care of them and others of their kind. He is also willing to act as agent to receive and hold for that time similar contributions from Alumni and other friends of the school who, having copies, say of twenty years or more ago, are willing to donate them.

Lacking information necessary to trace subsequent changes in the organization and management of the paper, we note simply that for several years it was issued as a weekly publication, and that at the present time it appears bi-weekly.

In the year 1906-07 or 1907-08 an effort was made to discover a poet in the college student body. We presume the effort was sponsored by the *Pharos,* for the inducement was held out that the person writing the best acceptable college song should be awarded a lifetime subscription to this College publication. Mr. George N. Steyer, of the class of 1909, was adjudged the winner. He produced the song bearing the name of the College, and set to the music of "Maryland, my Maryland."

Some time ago we wrote to Mr. Steyer. He corroborated our impression, but, answering as to whether he had received the paper through the years, said that it had arrived only very irregularly in recent years. He attributed this result to the fact that, with the passing

years, managers responsible for distributing the *Pharos* were probably unfamiliar with the original plan. When he came East a year or two ago we noted that he visited the campus before his return. His address, probably permanent, at the time of our correspondence was Route 6, Box 217 A, Fresno, California.

## THE MURMURMONTIS

The first school annual published by the students appeared in May, 1903, and is the handiwork of the Seminary Class of 1904. For richness in historical data about the school it is, probably, not excelled by any subsequent issue. This may be due in a measure to the fact that it had a clear field, being the first, and any material the staff wished to use was original. However, the members of the staff are remembered as being quite resourceful. They would, no doubt, have acquitted themselves with credit on any issue of the book.

The names of the members of the editorial staff of volume number one, only, will be given in this brief article on the history of the annual. They are:

Charles A. Jones ..... Editor-in-Chief
Annie May Hardman ..... Assistant Editor-in-Chief
A. F. McCue ..... Business Manager

Associate Editors

J. V. Gibson ..... Athletics
Sherman Britton ..... Associate
Daisy Smith ..... Associate
Madge Chidester ..... Music
Anna Morrison ..... Literature
Herbert Blair ..... Literature
R. Harold Sigler ..... Photography

It is our impression that the suggestion for the name that appears at the head of this article came from Dr. Trotter of the faculty. Every student took his Latin in

those days and the editors felt no need of rendering the name into English. In these degenerate days it is different. Perhaps a liberal rendering is "the voice of the mountain," the particular forms employed to construct the name being chosen for their alliterative effect.

An annual has been published each year, with a very few possible exceptions, since 1903. Perhaps one year was skipped about the time of the World War, and one or two at about the worst period of the present depression since 1929.

We regret to note, as in the case of the *Pharos*, that there is no complete file of the *Murmurmontis* kept by the College. We express the hope that, when in the near future adequate library room becomes available, interested alumni and other friends will complete the very imperfect file now on hand.

## EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER

Written by the Reverend John W. Reger and published in the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate,* March 3, 1887

WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE SEMINARY

The above caption and the resolutions of the West Virginia Conference at its last session, have led me to hope that in the near future we would have established within our own Conference a school of high grade, where the youth of our young and growing state could secure a good education. Our preachers and people have long felt, and do now keenly feel, the importance and growing necessity of such a school. Each year we spend thousands of dollars for educational purposes outside our own state and Conference, thereby building up towns and cities elsewhere to the impoverishment of our own. And in my opinion, owing to this system of foreign education we each year lose some of our most promising young men. And I would not be surprised if in this we have the reason why so many of our preachers transfer to other Conferences. They realize their utter inability to do anything for their families, outside of affording them the facilities for securing an education; but this they cannot do within the bounds of their own Conference, and not having the means of sending them elsewhere, they seek other fields of labor, hoping to better themselves in this respect. . . . .

We now have forty thousand members within the bounds of our Conference who of right look to us with anxious eyes, hoping, and many of them praying, that we will afford them educational advantages within their own Conference and state. Will we do it? Will we act? Will we arouse from this lethargy, and meet our grave responsilities? Ten years ago we raised in the town of Buckhannon, then not half so large as it is now, eight thousand dollars in available subscriptions; and I have no doubt that it would have been doubled had the Conference located the Seminary at this place. And munificent sums were offered at other points, greatly in excess, I suppose, of what could now be obtained.

In the location of the Seminary, the paramount consideration is, where will it afford educational advantages to the greatest number of our people, all things else being equal. And unless the men deputed to do this work can rise above local influences and local prejudices, and discard bargain and sale, there is great danger of their making a sad and irreparable mistake. They should look well to the future of our Conference and state, when we will have eighty thousand Methodists, and these mountain counties, the Switzerland of America, shall teem with a wide-awake population, and our mountain state shall take the place assigned it by the God of nations, and when we shall furnish statesmen to sister states, as we are now furnishing ministers to sister Conferences. We have the bone, the muscle, and the intellect; will our Conference wisely arrange for us educational facilities?

The northern tier of counties in our Conference have superior educational advantages near at hand, in old and well established institutions under the control and patronage of our Church; and hence the location of the seminary within that belt would not materially increase their educational privileges, and surely none will assert that it would meet the pressing demands of our interior counties. Besides, it would be a difficult, if not hopeless, undertaking to establish and maintain a seminary under such disadvantages. Years ago we tried the experiment in the Morgantown Female Seminary, and, as everyone knows, it proved an utter failure. Why? Because it was in the shadow of an old and well-established institution. And the same applies to the Wheeling Female Seminary. True, it has not failed entirely; but it has never succeeded in becoming a leading school.

A grave mistake was made, in my opinion, when the Conference adopted such action as was calculated to lead our people to believe that the seminary would be located at the place giving the largest money or property inducement. Any one free from local influences can see—so it appears to me—that in adopting this course the seminary may be located where our people, for numerous reasons which might be given, would not or could not patronize it. But without extended argument, I reaffirm that the paramount question to be settled is, Where will this Seminary be most accessible, and afford the greatest

educational advantages to the youth of our Conference? I maintain that this can be done more effectively, and that it would more effectually build up our state and Conference, in the interior than on the border. . . . .

*Pittsburgh Christian Advocate,* June 30, 1887, Judge Samuel Woods, of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, as quoted by the Rev. A. J. Lyda on choosing a site for the Seminary. (The site was chosen on July 14, following —the Author.)

Could I have my way I would have at least one-hundred acres. I would put a wide space between the Seminary grounds and the shops, drug-stores, and saloons. I would have abundant room for the school buildings proper. I would have room for a laboratory, library, observatory, museum, gymnasium, dormitories, boarding houses, residences for teachers and professors; room for flower-gardens, pleasure-grounds, promenades, groves, walks and drives. I would make the school and its surroundings so pleasant and delightful to the youths of both sexes who will throng its halls of learning, that they would love its memory, as old men love to recall the memory of their mothers' voice and features.

*Pittsburgh Christian Advocate,* July 28, 1887.

CONFERENCE SEMINARY LOCATED

Thursday afternoon (July 14) the Seminary was located at Buckhannon, on the thirty-second ballot, a two-thirds vote of the entire board of trustees (membership sixteen) being required to decide the question.

Nine of the trustees left Philippi at 5 o'clock in private conveyances, and, after riding eighteen miles arrived at Buckhannon at 10 P.M., and devoted Friday, Saturday and Monday to viewing and discussing several sites (for the school).

Adapted from the *Buckhannon Delta,* of Wednesday, October 8, 1890:

THE M. E. SEMINARY DEDICATION

The M. E. Conference, which was in session at Weston, came to Buckhannon in a body last Saturday for the purpose of dedicating the Seminary at this place. Coming by special train, they arrived about ten o'clock and repaired immediately to the Seminary building where interesting services were held. Several addresses were made on the subject of education, Bishop Foss and Reverend W. R. White being among the speakers. Contributions amounting to about $2,500 were received

for the Seminary. The members of the conference were entertained by the citizens of Buckhannon for dinner.

A large number of people were in attendance from the town and surrounding country besides those who came on the special train from Weston. In all, there were probably twenty-five hundred people in attendance. The large chapel was full and many could not be accommodated. This building is a grand structure and is justly the pride of our people.

## THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

For the fulfillment of the semi-centennial plans a comprehensive committee was chosen representing the following five groups and organizations: trustees, faculty, and alumni of the College; ministers and laymen of the conference. The personnel of this committee is given below:

*Trustees*

Dr. J. E. Wells, Chairman — Mr. Myron B. Hymes
Mr. Phil Conley — Mr. E. Ray Jones

*Faculty*

Dr. L. H. Chrisman — Dr. Nicholas Hyma
Dr. T. W. Haught

*Alumni*

Rev. W. S. Patterson — Dr. Joseph McElhatton
Mr. R. Worth Shumaker

*Ministers*

Dr. Homer E. Wark — Rev. John L. Wolfe
Rev. R. O. Phillips — Rev. W. E. Anderson

*Laymen*

Mr. C. H. Hartley — Mr. Roy Reger
Mr. W. F. Dalzell

*Ex-Officio*

Bishop Adna W. Leonard
President Roy McCuskey
Mr. Clyde O. Law, President, Board of Trustees
Rev. John E. Hanifan, Alumni Secretary

Subsequently, the names of Mr. A. G. Shannon and Professor G. L. Glauner were added to the list of laymen. John E. Hanifan, as Alumni Secretary, was replaced by Arthur E. Beckett, who in turn was replaced by Floyd N. Shaver, the present Alumni Secretary.

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